



Victim, 21, dies after his rescue from river

A 21-YEAR-old man has died after getting into difficulties in a river near Chirk.

Emergency services were called to an isolated location near the confluence of the Rivers Dee and Ceiriog shortly before 7pm on Tuesday night.

He was pulled from the water about 50 minutes later after a search involving officers from West Mercia Police and North Wales Police.

The man, who is believed to be from Shropshire, was airlifted to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The fire & rescue service and ambulance service also attended, and the North Wales Police helicopter helped with the search.

West Mercia Police are continuing to investigate the circumstances of the death and renewed warnings about swimming or cooling off in open water.

Richard Ewels, West Mercia Police spokesman, said: "There have been a number of recent tragedies in Shropshire and neighbouring counties where people have got into difficulties after entering rivers or quarry pools.

"Please don't be tempted. These types of water can be highly dangerous with strong undercurrents, low temperatures which can cause muscle cramps and hidden obstacles beneath the surface.

"Sadly, we are now dealing with another such tragedy."

The details of the death have been reported to the coroner.

Demolition work on flats

THE demolition of a drug-plagued housing estate in Oswestry has started after council planners agreed new affordable homes can be built in its place.

The go-ahead for the demolition of 48 flats in Swan Lane was given on Monday and by Tuesday diggers had started work.

The move was backed after council chiefs admitted its reputation for anti-social behaviour and drug use was making it difficult to find tenants.

A total of 19 affordable homes will be built in its place.



Passengers are helped off the stricken train.

Arrest made in train crash probe

BRITISH Transport Police arrested a 27-year-old man after a train collided with a tractor and trailer on a farm crossing at Buttington on Tuesday.

The man, believed to be the tractor driver, was arrested at the scene and later released on bail pending further inquiries until September 10. Up to 200 passengers needed rescuing from the stranded Arriva Trains Wales Birmingham to Aberystwyth service.

Superintendent Andy Morgan from British Transport Police said: "Our

investigation is continuing into the cause of the collision, including piecing together exactly how the vehicle came to be on the tracks at the time.

"As part of that investigation, a 27-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of endangering safety.

"He was taken to a police station, where he was assisting my officers with their inquiries."

The tractor driver and the train driver were both shaken and in shock, but otherwise uninjured following the crash

which happened shortly before noon close to Buttington Hall Farm.

The line between Shrewsbury and Machynlleth was closed for several hours. The train, which had been travelling at about 70mph, was partially derailed but remained upright.

A British Transport Police spokesman said some minor injuries were reported, and two people were taken to Welshpool Hospital for further treatment.

Rail services were replaced by buses.

● Panic - See Page 3

Developer combines wind farm proposals

PLANS for two wind farms near Welshpool have been combined into one by a developer which says it will be the "best possible" wind project.

Vattenfall says it has scrapped its plans for a 15-turbine wind farm at Mynydd Waun Fawr, Llanerfyl, near Welshpool and will instead combine it with plans at Rhyd Ddu, also at Llanerfyl.

It is not yet known how many turbines the planned wind farm will have, with the developer saying it is still in the very early stages.

But it says it will consult residents when the plans are drawn up next year.

Ruari Lean, senior development manager at Vattenfall, said: "We believe that by developing a wind farm on a single, combined site we will be able to maximise the benefits from this renewable energy project to the region, whilst working to minimise cumulative impacts."

Vattenfall submitted Mynydd Waun Fawr's application for 16 wind turbines 3km south west of Llanerfyl to Powys County Council in 2007. In January 2009 Supplementary Environmental Information was also submitted, reducing the application to 15 turbines.

Stakeholders and members of the community can comment on the new proposals when formal consultation begins next year.

Vattenfall is one of Europe's largest energy firms and is the continent's sixth largest generator of electricity and its largest producer of heat.

It currently operates 545MW of onshore wind capacity and 836MW of offshore wind across Europe.

Scores enjoy food festival

THOUSANDS of people flocked to Oswestry at the weekend to enjoy the seventh annual food festival.

The border market town was packed as people thronged the streets enjoying the heatwave, fine food and entertainment.

Buskers added to the jazz music on the Bailey Head and on Sunday street entertainers mingled with the crowds. John Wayne, one of those behind the Food Festival, was pleased by the attendance. "The crowds were just amazing," he said.

● Crowds - Pages 6 & 7

COUNCIL'S BID TO BUILD SUPER HQ

MULTI-million pound plans to transform council and emergency service bases in Welshpool have been unveiled by Powys County Council.

The council says it wants to create a new base in the town which could include council offices, police, ambulance and fire stations, flats, a library and other offices. The council's cabinet agreed on Tuesday to look at the transformation, but said it was still in a "very early stage". The complex could be built in Howell Drive at the site of the town's former swimming baths.

by Graham Breeze

Margaret is in town to judge blooms

MARGARET Thrower was in Oswestry this week to judge the town's In Bloom competition.

Miss Thrower, daughter of Percy Thrower, who was affectionately known as 'the nation's head gardener', was in Oswestry on Monday to begin viewing the gardens, patios and vegetable plots which have been entered into this year's contest.

The competition is being judged in 14 categories, ranging from the best kept school and best school edible produce to the best front and back gardens and best kept patio or courtyard.

Louise Humphreys, who is helping to organise the competition at Oswestry Town Council, said: "They set off on Monday morning to look at the entries and it took two days to look at them all.

"The entries have come in fantastically across the board - front gardens, back gardens, patios, and schools. We've had a lot of interest and it's been fantastic to see so many entries come in."

The awards will be presented at a ceremony later in the summer.

● Glory - See Page 12

Powys County Council is currently based in the Grade-II Listed Neuadd Maldwyn building in Severn Road, but says it needs £3million worth of repairs to be carried out if it is to remain open.

It will now look to sell the building to raise funds for the new project which could also be occupied by Powys teaching Local Health Board, HM Revenue and Customs, a job centre, Welshpool Town Council and a new GP surgery.

Last year, the police, fire and magistrates court moved to a shared site in Llandrinod Wells, which has been hailed a success.

A working group will now be set up by the council to look at ideas for the future of the development.

Transform

Councillor Garry Banks, portfolio holder for localism at the council, said the development could transform services in the town for future generations.

He said: "Neuadd Maldwyn provides a base for adult social services, children's services, housing, regeneration/planning and others.

"In the surrounding vicinity, the authority also operates a school, youth centre, residential home and day centre. Powys County Council is in control of the majority of land around the Neuadd Maldwyn site in Welshpool.

"In addition, immediately around Neuadd Maldwyn, several of our partners also hold accommodation and operate services, these being the police, fire brigade, ambulance and government office building.

"Officers have identified that there is huge potential in Welshpool to collaborate and provide state of the art, modern, fit for purpose facilities.

"This is a pioneering project that has wide reaching benefits."

Top class teacher retires



Teacher Ian Sykes of The Marches School is retiring, he chats with pupils Joanna Richards, Seamus Power, Oliver Beckett and Carla Jones. Picture: Laura Duffield.

A TEACHER is retiring at the end of term after 40 years of service in Oswestry.

Ian Sykes began his teaching career in 1973 at Oswestry Boys' Modern School and is now a teacher at The Marches School.

Marches headteacher Sarah Longville paid tribute to Mr Sykes's dedication to his job and the town's children. She said: "As the Marches celebrates its 25th anniversary Ian Sykes stands as a testimony to the hard work and commitment of our staff.

"It is rare in these days of frequent career moves to find a teacher who has wholeheartedly dedicated himself to the progress and success of one school. We acknowledge and applaud the significant impact Mr Sykes has

had in the creation of our outstanding school.

"He is an asset to the school and will be sorely missed by staff, students, parents and governors; many of whom he has taught during his extensive teaching career."

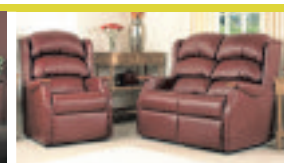
He taught at Croeswynall School and in 1988 was appointed as head of year in the newly-formed Marches School, where he has remained until announcing his retirement earlier this year.

Mr Sykes said: "I will be leaving with many happy memories of Oswestry's three quite different, but successful schools, their students, and work colleagues - and looking forward to the next chapter in my life."

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NEWS**CONTENTS**

Comment	8
Letters	9
Welshpool	10 and 11
Property	23-26
Business	30 and 31
Nostalgia	33
Wildside	35
Markets	38
Sport	45-48

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Pupils skip classes to walk in aid of charity

by Pam Griffin

HUNDREDS of schoolchildren skipped their lessons to take a walk around the country lanes and fields of Oswestry – but it was all for charity.

More than 700 pupils from The Marches School in Oswestry chose a variety of charities before setting off on the walk on Monday and hope to have raised £2,000 once all the sponsorship is collected.

The 721 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in the sponsored walk, leaving school in groups from 9am with the last walkers returning to school by 3pm. Their six and a half mile route took them through Oswestry School's playing fields and then into the countryside as they headed up towards the Old Racecourse before making their way back to school.

Along the walk the students were wearing non-uniform, with some choosing to wear clothing associated with the charity they were supporting to raise more awareness of the charities.

The walk, which has been named Marching Marches, was raising funds for B-eat, Evie's Dream, Hope House, Cancer Research UK, Oswestry orthopaedic hospital's bone cancer centre appeal, and Child Reach UK.

Fantastic

Deputy headteacher Ruth Lloyd, who took part in the walk with the Year 7 pupils, said the day had gone perfectly.

Mrs Lloyd, who was one of the last walkers to return to the school at 3pm, said: "It's been a fantastic day. The kids have thoroughly enjoyed it and it's for such good causes."

"And what weather! It's been a lovely day and I must thank PE teacher Sian Scott who organised the event for making it such a success."

"We don't know how much money we've raised yet, but it had been a really fantastic day."

Also walking with the Year 7 students was Sharon Harding, a member of staff from Barclays Bank in Oswestry. The branch has pledged to match the first £750 raised to go to the students' chosen charities.

The students collected the sponsorship before the walk, but anyone who would like to donate can call Sian Scott on (01691) 664400.



Children taking part in the Marches School sponsored walk.
Picture: Peter Flemmich.

Historic muskets in display at castle

THE smell of gunpowder will greet visitors to Chirk Castle this weekend as the firepower of Civil War muskets is put to the test.

National Trust firearms adviser Brian Godwin will be taking a closer look at some of the National Trust property's historic muskets on Saturday and Sunday.

The 700-year-old castle houses an impressive collection of historic firearms, including 17th century Civil War muskets.

Brian will be based in the castle's Cromwell Hall and will be happy to answer any questions about the nationally important collection.

He said: "The firearms collection at Chirk includes beautifully inlaid hunting guns and pistols, as well as the 38 17th Century doglock muskets, some of which are exceptionally rare."

Also on hand will be the castle's very own Civil War musketeer, David Dabinett. Dave will be answering questions about life for ordinary musketeers and what it was like to use these weapons in battle.

He will also be giving live firing demonstrations using his replica 17th century musket.

Joanne Thompson, assistant visitor services manager at the castle, said: "The 17th century was a bloody time in Chirk Castle's history. It was the last time the castle was used as a fortress – the purpose for which it was built."

"The castle was besieged three times during the Civil War, and some of the muskets still at the castle today may have been used during this time. The Cromwell Hall also houses a collection of Civil War cavalry armour and other weapons."

Brian Godwin will be at Chirk Castle between noon and 4pm. Normal admission charges to the castle and gardens apply.

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DAY FOUR - SCENIC HOMEWARD RUN (INCLUDING SETTLE & CARLISLE RAILWAY): We enjoy all of the scenic highlights of our Friday journey, with a bonus run back south over the amazing scenery of the Settle and Carlisle railway, with its famous Ribbleshead Viaduct (as recently seen on TV).

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NEWS

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Man, 53, sentenced for brawl near pub

A WELSHPOOL man has been given a six-month community order following a brawl outside a pub.

David Spencer, 53, of Woodside, Welshpool, was involved in the incident outside the Wellington public house in Welshpool, in which Phillip Bowen got knocked out.

Welshpool Magistrates Court heard on Tuesday that Spencer hit Mr Bowen in a row which spilled from inside the pub into Berriew Street.

Spencer had previously admitted using threatening, abusive, insulting words or behaviour.

Magistrates handed Spencer a six-month community order twinned with a thinking skills programme and ordered him to pay £85 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Mrs Helen Tench, prosecuting, said that in the early hours of January 13, Mr Bowen and his wife Davina had been leaving the Wellington pub when words were exchanged with Spencer and his son.

She said: "Scuffles broke out and there was a smacking sound and Mr Bowen was lying on the floor. The defendant was heard to say 'what have I done' and 'I've killed him' before running away."

An ambulance was called and Mr Bowen had suffered bruising, a cut lip and two chipped teeth. He was knocked out for about two minutes.

Mr Robert Hanratty, for Spencer, said his client had been hit on the head by someone else and had seen someone approaching from behind.

"To protect himself he hit out and I guess you could say he got unlucky by connecting with a perfect punch to the head," Mr Hanratty added. "He is very sorry but he thought it was in self-defence."

Passenger who dialled 999 tells of panic in carriages Train and tractor in 70mph crash on railway crossing

by Andrew Morris and Pam Griffin

PASSENGERS had lucky escapes when a train and tractor were involved in a 70mph crash at Buttington.

And the man who dialled 999 has spoken of the panic in the carriages in the aftermath of the collision.

Eyewitnesses described hearing a loud bang before seeing the damage to the front of the train's cab and one of its wheels derailed in the incident on Tuesday.

Between 150 and 200 people were on board the train, which was travelling between Birmingham and Aberystwyth, at the time of the crash shortly before noon.

A 27-year-old man, believed to be the tractor driver, has been arrested on suspicion of endangering safety in connection with the collision.

Train services between Shrewsbury and Machynlleth were suspended for several hours while the track was cleared and replacement bus services were brought in.

Tom Spalding, 32, from Montgomery, was on the train and the first to call 999.

Shunt

He said: "There was a huge shunt and a cloud of dust and we all looked at each other. There was a panic and I saw the tractor flying off."

"There was a hell of a bump and I was in the furthest carriage of the four back so I can't imagine what it would have felt like for those who were in the front carriage."

"People started looking around and we were wondering what on earth had happened until I spotted the tractor and trailer spinning off the track and down a verge," he said.

"Passengers were panicked and worried and we were all hoping that



Tom Spalding

nobody was hurt. I quickly called 999 and told them what had happened and I ran and found the conductor and just did what I could to help people get off."

"I had my bicycle with me so I cycled the rest of the way home and finished my day's work there and bid the rest of the passengers who left by coach farewell."

Russell George, Montgomeryshire AM, said the incident raised safety concerns about the dangers at rural crossings.

He said: "This is an extremely serious incident and I am thankful that there were no serious

injuries or fatalities.

"The issue of level crossing safety is a significant issue and there are legitimate safety concerns for people living in communities in Montgomeryshire that have to use such crossings on a daily basis."

A spokeswoman for Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service said: "The train was completely evacuated by 2pm by the fire service using triple extension ladders."

"A casualty was treated by a doctor and ambulance personnel for respiratory problems due to the heat, and a further person was treated for whiplash injuries by the ambulance personnel."

"They were taken to the Minor Injuries Unit at Welshpool for further treatment."

Superintendent Andy Morgan from British Transport Police said: "Our investigation is continuing into the cause of the collision, including piecing together exactly how the vehicle came to be on the tracks at the time."

"As part of that investigation, a 27-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of endangering safety. He was taken to a police station, where he was assisting officers with their inquiries."



The scene of the collision. Pictures: Peter Flemmich.



The emergency services at the crash site.

NEWS

in brief

Creative way to tackle booze issue

SCHOOL pupils in Oswestry have found a creative way to tackle underage and anti-social drinking.

During a series of events which have run through the spring and summer terms, members of the citizenship department at The Marches School have been working in collaboration with the Oswestry division of the Community Alcohol Partnership on a creative writing competition exploring the negative aspects of drinking.

The contest was organised by Shropshire and Oswestry Councillor Vince Hunt and the local library.

Key Stage 3 winner was Dru Cripps-Hughes with his poem Puke, Key Stage 4 winners were Kira Scott and Lauren Cameron with their jointly-written entry Never Forgotten.

Ladies night is on at cricket club

A LADIES' night will be held at Oswestry Cricket Club to raise funds for a hospice.

Tickets for the evening on August 2 cost £10, available from Barber Shop 2 in Old Chapel Court, opposite Milanos cafe, in Oswestry. The evening, which will raise cash for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd in Chester, will include an exotic dancer, Ann Summers and a disco and is suitable for adults only.

Town councillor to hold surgery

OSWESTRY town councillor Paul Milner has a surgery for the residents of Victoria ward on Saturday. Mr Milner will be at Oswestry Library between 11am and noon.

"If I can help in any way at Oswestry Town Council level residents are welcome to come along," he said.

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NEWS

Parish councillors object to plan to build luxury homes

PARISH councillors have objected to a plan for luxury homes next to an Oswestry area golf club – despite developers saying the proposal will help address the county's "urgent" need for more houses.

The councillors have ruled that they cannot back the plans for land at Henlle Park Golf Club at Gobowen, near Oswestry, because it is outside the village's development boundary. They also said that they objected to the outline proposal because there was no element of affordable housing in the application. The parish councillors' comments have been passed on to Shropshire Council which will make the final decision on whether the plans should

by Iain St John

Appeal case is adjourned

AN APPEAL by a woman from Oswestry against a conviction for burglary has been adjourned after the child of a defence witness fell ill.

Gemma Walter, 28, of now of Cae Haidd, Llanymynech, was found guilty at Shrewsbury magistrates court of breaking into the home of a former neighbour, Mr Christopher Nottingham and stealing designer dresses, handbags, a DVD player, children's toys a piggy bank, and a clothes horse.

The burglary was between July 29 and August 1, 2011, in Orchard Street, Oswestry, when Mr Nottingham and his partner, were moving house.

Walters, who now lives at Cae Haidd, Llanymynech, admitted she entered the house thinking the neighbours had moved out and left their belongings behind.

She denied taking anything from the house, claiming that her partner had returned to the house to take the property. The appeal was adjourned to August 9.

get the go-ahead.

Planning papers in support of the bid by applicant Ralph Tomley say it would see seven large homes with at least four bedrooms each built.

The papers say the bid has been submitted in response to the lack of a five-year deliverable supply of housing land in Shropshire. They add: "Analysis of Shropshire Council's figures reveals that the actual available supply may well have been over-estimated, and that the situation could get worse rather than better in the next 12 months."

"Therefore, the council urgently needs to increase the available supply of housing land in the county."

"The landowner can confirm that the application site will be made available to the market in the short term, and it is anticipated that the site will prove to be an attractive development proposition to prospective developers."

"Based on the success of the development of various sites in the village in the past, including the most recent at the former Perry's Garage site on the St Martins Road, we believe there will be strong demand for the proposed properties."

The issue was discussed by councillors at last week's meeting of Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council.

Shropshire Council hopes to make a decision on the application by August 20.

Saints tackle fun day in sun



At The New Saints fun day with mascot Spot are Gilbert Woolley, Andy Garmston and Alan Walker.
Picture: Laura Outfield.

THE New Saints took a break from their European Champions League preparations to take part in the club's annual fun day.

A number of players attended the TNS in the Park event in Cae Glas Park in Oswestry, where youngsters were able to get their autographs and pose for photos.

Visitors also had the chance to try soccer skills games and try beating club mascot Spot the dog when he donned the gloves to become a goalkeeper.

"We want people to support their local, professional club," said the club's community officer Craig Edwards.

"We have so much going on already working in the community with young people."

"There are between 170 and 180 young people in our academy, we have a flourishing women's team and we also have the Mini Saints for children from the age of four to 11 on Wednesdays after school at the Venue where the emphasis is on friendly fun."

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NEWS

01691 668094

Research charity hands over £256,000 for spinal studies

A FUNDRAISING charity has donated more than £250,000 to Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital over the past year to provide funding for research into spinal cord injuries, treatment for back pain, and other injuries and treatments.

Members of the Orthopaedic Institute Limited revealed the group had provided £256,000 for research projects carried out at the hospital during the past 12 months at its annual general meeting. The wide range of projects included research into spinal cord injury, an alternative approach to spinal fusion for the treatment of back pain, and treating cartilage defects of the knee joint. Other projects supported were testing therapeutic pathways in spinal muscular atrophy, research into inflammatory arthritis, and a pilot study on pressure wound therapy following surgery in the foot and ankle.

by Pam Griffin

Town council's regeneration plan rewarded

WELSHPOOL Town Council has scooped an award for its regeneration plans.

And civic leaders in Oswestry are also celebrating after the work of the town's joint economic board was recognised in the same awards programme.

Welshpool Town Council's regeneration plan was one of five projects which won accolades in the All-Wales section of this year's Town Alive Awards, a scheme launched by the Action for Market Towns campaign set up to boost footfall on the country's high streets.

Initiatives include breathing life into empty shops.

The town along with the four other Welsh finalists will find out if it has won the UK-wide award at an award ceremony in Congleton in November.

Midwife ordained as deacon



Deborah Coatsworth

A MIDWIFE swapped her nursing uniform for a clerical collar and cassock when she was ordained as a Church of England deacon by the Bishop of Lichfield at Lichfield Cathedral.

Deborah Coatsworth, of Duddleston Heath, was ordained by the Rt Rev Jonathan Gledhill after two year's part-time studying at the Queen's Theological College, Birmingham and she will now take up the post of curate for the parishes of Baschurch, Hordley and Weston Lullingfields.

But Deborah is no stranger to church work for she is the wife of the Rev Nigel Coatsworth, retired vicar of Solatyn and Weston Rhyn. She is also a reader for the parishes of Criftons, Duddleston Heath and Welshampton Churches.

She said: "Nigel has been a huge support for me in my studies to become ordained. I couldn't have done it without his help."

Her husband said: "I'm very proud of her. She has worked so hard."

Deborah, a former pupil of Oswestry Girls' High School, did her midwifery training at the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies in Woolwich, London. She has been working in Shropshire since 1982, mainly in Oswestry and in Shrewsbury since 2007, helping to deliver scores of babies over the years.

She will continue as a part-time midwife for a period after her ordination.

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Thousands flock to town centre



Lindsay Chaplin from Lindsays Cakery.



Jordan Watkiss and Owen Griffiths from Coopers Gourmet Sausage Rolls in Oswestry.



Jools Payne promotes events around the area.



Jason Jasararti from easternfoods.org.



Alan Busby from Oswestry Cricket Club.



Hannah Morgan from Swifts Bakery in Cleve Hill.

THOUSANDS of people filled Oswestry's town centre at the weekend to enjoy the seventh annual food festival.

The border market town lived up to its name as people from across the region thronged the streets enjoying the summer heatwave, fine food and entertainment.

Crowds gathered at least an hour before the

event was due to start on Saturday with many stallholders opening early to satisfy the expectant shoppers.

Buskers turned out to add to the jazz music on the Bailey Head while on Sunday street entertainers and musicians mingled with the crowds.

John Waine, one of those behind the Food Festival said he was amazed by the attendance. "The crowds were just amazing," he said.

"People love coming to the Oswestry Food Festival because it is out in the streets, like a market should be and it is not too large. We also pride ourselves on the fact that about 95 per cent of the stallholders are from a 30-35 mile radius of the town."

"There is such a brilliant atmosphere. Some young buskers showed their initiative and turned up performing some great music and everyone has a smile on their face."

He said the festival always had more applicants for stalls that it could accommodate.

"It is becoming harder and harder to decide which to allow to take part in the festival, the quality is so good. Oswestry and the surrounding area has so many good food producers."

One of the stars of the event was the chef of the West Arms in Llanarmon, Grant who took his Welsh Black Beef dish to the TV series, Great British Dish.

"This is the first time we have been to the festival and it is just great. We wanted to bring the West Arms into Oswestry and tell people about just how wonderful the Ceiriog Valley is."

Cookery demonstrations by the Ideal Home television chef, Malcom Carradine and chef at the Navigation Inn, Jack Hatley, took place at the Upstairs Downstairs shop in Leg Street.

The shop launched its cookery workshops which will be run by Mr Hatley.

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NEWS

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for food festival



Sarah Roberts from Sucasa Cuisine.



The Oswestry Food Festival.



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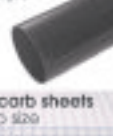
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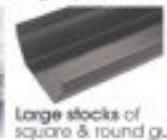
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COMMENT

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To t or not to t, that is the village's question

THE war of words over the spelling of a village name close to the Shropshire/Powys border is growing it seems.

Llansanffraid Community Council is planning a village survey in a bid to have the letter "t" restored. It was removed by Powys County Council in 2008, the village having been named Llansanffraid-ym-Mechain since the mid 1800s following a campaign by local resident Rhys Ap Owen.

And the row was fuelled this week when a local weekly newspaper (not the *Chronicle*) to "Llansanffraid" when publishing a letter from the former council chairman in support of the "t" being restored.

Furious farmer and caravan park owner Doug Williams, claims he has been made to look foolish by the newspaper's actions.

Rhys Ap Owen has mounted an attack on the community council and claims the "t"

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

with Graham Breeze



was introduced by "an illiterate English establishment" and in a letter to the *Chronicle* claimed his local councillors were "delusional".

The whole thing seems to be getting a little out of hand and personally I have yet to speak to anyone other than Mr Owen who is favour of the "t" being taken out.

His vitriolic attack on members of the local council smacks of a man struggling to find support for a cause he clearly believes passionately in.

Perhaps it's time Powys County Council

stepped in to resolve this situation – it's certainly no storm in a "T Cup" now.

□□□□

WELSHPOOL is my home town and I love the place dearly, but the image greeting visitors is surely not the one anyone wants.

For some time now anyone emerging from Church Street car park finds themselves subjected to scenes of booze-swilling individuals taking up all the seating areas close to the Tourist Information Centre.

It's the same in the Puzzle Square area, which is a reflection of the number of empty shops, and now there's a new location for partying at the entrance to Berriew Road car park.

This new location is certainly as a result of the new European shop which has opened in Berriew Street, stocked to the ceiling with cheap booze – I saw a van load arrive myself this week.

But how much damage is the drinking culture doing to Welshpool's image? Visitors

to the town and residents themselves are being subjected to abusive behaviour and although the town council and the local police are combining to tackle this inappropriate activity the solution seems a long way off. But they are to be congratulated on recognising the problem.

Only a total ban on drinking alcohol on the streets and car parks of the town would solve the problem and then policing such a restriction would be virtually impossible.

"Welshpool – The Gateway To Wales" doesn't seem so appropriate these days.

AND finally I know my remarks about Welshpool's image will upset at least one Welshpool councillor, who often attacks my observations on town life.

But burying your head in the sand is not the way to solve any problem, let alone one as big as this. This is not a criticism, it's an observation, and I'm pretty sure it's one shared by the majority of people.

Strand of Elvis's hair up for grabs at antique stall

The framed strand of Elvis's hair.

by Sue Austin

ELVIS is in the building – well a strand of his hair to be exact.

Tucked away on an antique stall in Oswestry, trader, John Perrins has an authentic piece of the King's famous jet black hair.

The memorabilia collector was "All Shook Up" when he made the find while living in America.

Now he has put the bizarre souvenir up for sale on his stall in the Cambrian House Emporium in Oswestry.

Mr Perrins, 68, lived in America for many years but had to return to Shropshire when he lost his home during a hurricane in central Florida in 2005.

He, his wife Linda, son Joe, and the family's dogs, survived the hurricane by hiding in their "walk-in" wardrobe that was directly behind the stone chimney. But the house was badly damaged.

"It happened so quickly in the middle of the night. But I remembered that when you see photos of hurricane-hit homes it is



A close-up of the strand of Elvis's hair.

always the stone chimneys that are still standing," said Mr Perrins.

He said that with the damage to the house and his deteriorating health the family had no choice but to return to Oswestry.

He happened upon the strand of hair when he visited Memphis during the family's two years in America.

"I bought the piece of Elvis's hair from his barber and it came with a certificate of authenticity. I couldn't resist it."

Barber, Homer Gill Gilleland toured with



Tom Jones from the Cambrian House Emporium in Oswestry with the framed strand of Elvis's hair. Picture: Peter Shah.

Elvis for more than 20 years. He dyed the singer's hair black and then cut it, saving strands in a towel which he sold after the singer's death in 1977.

He was also said to be the inventor of the famous black dye he used on Elvis. He died in 1995.

Mr Perrins said he set up a stall in Oswestry to help the family to move on with their lives.

"We had to downsize and so we had to get rid of some of our collection. We have lots of

American trivia from Homer Simpson items, Beanie toys and all kinds of interesting things." The piece of hair caught the attention of antiques expert Helen Hall from the BBC Antiques Road trip when she visited the emporium this week.

Her show will be broadcast in the new year.

Daryl Kerr from the emporium said Mr Perrins's memorabilia stand was just one of the gems in the historic building, which has more than 30 stalls.

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Bad debt means I can't pay staff or suppliers this month – does this make my business insolvent?

Q. I am a director of a limited company. A major customer went into liquidation owing me a large sum of money and I have no real prospect of being paid. I am now unable to pay my staff their full wages this month. I also have supplier bills which the company cannot pay, but which I will pay using my personal credit card. Is the business insolvent? What can I do?

A: Sadly, the failure of one business can often have a domino effect on other businesses. You need to take professional advice as soon as possible, the sooner you do so the better the prospects for your business. In addition, there are implications for you personally if you fail to act promptly in relation to your business.

There are two main economic tests of whether your company is insolvent, but this analysis requires careful consideration of all the business's financial circumstances. Failure to seek professional insolvency advice and/or continuing to trade when you should have ceased trading could potentially result in legal action against you. As a company director, you could face action for various breaches of the Insolvency Act 1986 and, in some circumstances, you can be held personally liable for some or all of the company's debts. If a company director does not act responsibly and in accordance with his duties to the company, or is reckless or fraudulent, there can be severe penalties, including Directors Disqualification proceedings.

If your company is deemed insolvent it need not necessarily spell the end for the company. Depending on the circumstances, there are various options you can consider with your professional adviser, such as a Company Voluntary Agreement ("CVA"), whereby you come to an arrangement with your creditors to pay a proportion of your debt to each creditor. The important point is to take professional advice sooner rather than later.

Further information relating to this question is available from Emyr Kerfoot, a Partner in the Wrexham offices of GHP Legal who can be contacted on 01978 291456. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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LETTERS

Medical care from the NHS is finest

IN the past six weeks, I have experienced what can only be described as the very best of the NHS, and would appreciate being able to pass on my thanks to all concerned.

On May 25, while working in the garden I experienced severe chest pains, and felt very unwell. I telephoned ShropDoc who advised that I call an ambulance.

Within about 15 minutes a very kind and reassuring paramedic (Julie) arrived and I was taken to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital A & E Department.

I was told later that I had had a heart attack and was admitted to the CC Unit and transferred after several days to Ward 24.

Within five days and after further tests I was advised that I needed heart bypass surgery and after one week was transferred to Ward 23 at the University Hospital of North Staffs.

In little over a week the operation had been carried out and I returned to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

Exactly one month after I was back in my own home and, as the surgeon said, "done and dusted".

The excellent care has continued from Ellesmere Community Services.
EILEEN FLYNN
Ellesmere

Reason for fraud cases

AT the risk of sounding like a grumpy old codger, I think I've discovered why there has been a plethora of cases of identity fraud.

I realised I was onto something when, after collecting points at a cafe, I was asked to reveal my life history: all for the sake of a free sandwich and a cola.

Then, I was asked to give my date of birth to discuss my energy bill on the telephone, and my name, address, marital status and e-mail to even begin to talk to somebody about changing the plan on my pay-as-you-go mobile account.

In 10 years we'll be asked to provide three forms of ID when buying a loaf of bread.

I wonder whether if we weren't forced to give out so much information, it wouldn't be floating around in the ether for every fraudster to get their hands on.

STEVE WILKINSON
Shropshire

Wonder who really is delusionary?

I WRITE in reply to Rhys Ap Owen's comment in your letter column dated July 4.

The community council has been, and still is, doing everything within its power to oppose the pylons desecrating our landscape, the village of Llansantffraid, local businesses and tourism.

I feel that Rhys Ap Owen is only part of the local action group because the pylons threaten his own property.

With regard to the missing letter "t" in the village name the supposed con-

sultation was, in the community council view, totally inadequate and the council totally opposes the spelling of our village name without the "t" as do the majority of businesses and local people.

Rhys Ap Owen thinks the community council is delusionary!

This person is hell bent on "supposedly" putting right the persecution his forefathers suffered at the hands of the English (radical to say the least).

I am starting to wonder who really

is delusionary! Rome burns when Nero fiddles. There are various local organisations in our village which are desperate for enthusiastic members.

Rhys Ap Owen would be far better putting his energies into helping one or two of these organisations before they disappear, rather than alienating himself from the local villagers of Llansantffraid.

DOUG WILLIAMS
Bryn Vyrnwy
Llansantffraid YM



FUNNYMAN Ken Dodd leads the countdown to the grand opening of the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital League of Friends' annual fete held in the hospital grounds in the summer of 1987. It was the second year running that he had opened the Oswestry hospital's fete.

Donation ruling is open to question

I LIVE in Wales and I have been a card carrying organ donor for more than 20 years - but that was my choice. I am not going to be told by a bunch of clowns what will happen to my guts when I've gone.

What would happen were I to drop off the mortal coil whilst on a shopping trip to Shropshire? Will the Welsh Organ Police drive over the border to claim my entrails?

Even more problematic would be the case of an Englishman popping off whilst in Wales.

Stripped of his once vital parts, he would then be shipped back over the border whereupon litigation is an almost certain outcome.

Consider the annual number of deaths in Wales and then think about numbers awaiting a transplant. My guess is that there are more deaths than transplant pending cases. So, even if there is no problem in matching blood and other no-go factors, what will happen to the spares?

I'm going to bequeath my body for anatomical examination to the Human Tissue Authority.

PETER J H SHARMAN
Arddleen

Wind power just hot air

THE leaders of the main parties will never admit to having the wool pulled over their eyes by green zealots who convinced them that wind turbines and solar panels were essential to save the planet from burning up!

Wind and solar struggle to produce four per cent of electricity, yet they blight the landscape.

Whilst Community Minister Eric Pickles says that "locals opposed to wind farms can stop them", the reality is that, even where planning departments heed their plea, an appeal almost invariably results in a government inspector overruling the council.

So we will get the useless, flailing monsters just the same, whilst every other country that has tried them is scrapping subsidies and allowing the turbines to rust away, returning to coal for energy supplies.

What a mess!
WF KERSWELL
Picklescott
Church Stretton

Thank you for helping at tea party

WE would like to thank everyone who attended Tea in the Garden at Merrifield, Grange Road, Ellesmere, on July 7.

It was a wonderful afternoon and we had a good number attending despite the many other events in the area and the Wimbledon final! Surprisingly, a dozen people disappeared and were found in a tiny upstairs bedroom, which only contains one chair and a bed and, more importantly, a very tiny TV. They were tracked down by the noise at the end of the match.

Hopefully, a good time was had by all and £1,100 will be sent to Macmillan Cancer Support.

WILF AND DOROTHY MADDOCKS
Ellesmere

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

Stand together and fight separation

THREE cheers for Andy Murray. 77 years is a long time to wait for another British Wimbledon winner. David Cameron hailed his success and so did Alex Salmond, the Scottish First Minister. But if Salmond has his way and we separate, Murray will just be a Scottish player in future. I think that's sad. Great Britain was built on the combined strength of the English, Welsh and Scots, we stand strong together.

It's the same in life. I always feel sad when I hear of couples separating. An NHS study has found that children who grow through family breakup are much more likely to grow up violent and unhappy. This is the tragic result of not taking marriage seriously. Time was when we got married in church and gave our solemn promises before God. We need to fight to keep marriages alive.

RON JONES, St Martins

Salmond is proud Scot like Murray

WHY on earth are people complaining at Alex Salmond waving the Scottish flag to celebrate Andy Murray's Wimbledon win?

Salmond, like Murray, is a proud Scot. To the best of my knowledge the Wimbledon tournament is organised by and staged at The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, and is nothing to do with being the "British tennis tournament", if such a thing exists.

I see no difference in Salmond waving his flag than any other national. The furor is merely because of Salmond's politics.

Great Britain is a wonderful place to live, but the other three home nations are not part of England. Celebrate the difference.

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NEWS
in briefTea party date
raises charity cash

A FUNDRAISING tea party on top of the Long Mountain, near Welshpool, has brought in vital cash for a charity.

The event was organised by Carole and Tim Thorpe-Gunner, who opened up their house and gardens, and raised £370 for the Dystonia Society.

Carole and her helpers all suffer from dystonia – a neurological condition.

Entertainment was provided by Helen Stanier and Molly, her terrier, and there was a raffle, quiz and plant stalls.

For more information about dystonia go to www.dystonia.org.uk

Police plea after
four burglaries

POLICE are investigating a spate of burglaries in north Powys in recent weeks.

So far, there have been four similar cash and jewellery burglaries.

"We are seeing these burglaries happen during the daytime and sometimes when people are at home," said Detective Constable Zoe Powell.

Any information can be passed on to Welshpool CID by calling 101.

Nature sessions

THE Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust is holding Nature Explorers' sessions in the summer holidays in Welshpool. Details at www.montwt.co.uk

Town gears up to welcome Country Music Festival fans

COUNTRY and Western fans from all over the country are heading to Welshpool for this weekend's annual Country Music Festival.

The three-day event will be staged on the former showfield in Powis Castle grounds for the 26th year with a full weekend of entertainment planned.

The popular show, which sees hundreds turning out in country and western clothing, is held to raise funds for the Welshpool based Heulwen Trust.

The Heulwen Trust, which was formed in 1985 is a charity whose aim is to provide free trips along the Montgomery Canal for the disabled. The Trust operates two purpose-built narrow boats to cater for the special needs of passengers, manned by volunteers.

Entertainment starts on Friday night with Black Steel and Pedro performing and the opening of the show sees the traditional Western charge down the bank with 50 Westerners in traditional costume with guns blazing, to music.

Saturday will see performances from Little Miss Country, Twin Falls, Nancy Ann Lee, Next Of Kin, Johnny Cash Revisited, Sarah Jory & St Country Band and Pedro.

And there's more on offer on Sunday with live music from Peter Shaw, Alan Gregory, McKenzie, Texas Gun, Cowboy Up and the show will be closed by Live Trilogy.

There's a fast draw demonstration by Doug Perry and novices or experienced people are welcome to join in.

Organisers are ready to deal with any change in the glorious weather and have erected a 7,500sq ft marquee.

There are children's activities including a bouncy castle, face painting and pony rides and a variety of trade, food and drinks stands along with a tombola and raffle.

A weekend ticket to include camping costs £30, day tickets are £12.50, Friday night £5 and Saturday night £7. Anyone attending is entitled money off entry to Powis Castle and gardens if Western gear is worn. Free boat trips Saturday and Sunday allows visitors to see where all the money goes from this fundraising event.

by Graham Breeze

Craft group's open weekend

A NEWLY-formed community craft organisation near Welshpool is holding an open weekend and free drop-in sessions in August.

Chapel Crafts Community Organisation at Cefn-Y-Faenor Community Chapel in Berriew has been set up by Pamela Jones.

It aims to provide a daily drop in centre and a community arts and crafts centre for people of all ages and abilities, and in particular to the learning disabled.

The centre will be open from 10am-4pm on Saturday and Sunday, and will include workshops and demonstrations at regular intervals throughout the weekend.

Pamela said: "I have always worked closely with people with learning disabilities and the elderly, hosting and attending demonstrations and painting classes in the community as much as three or four times a week."

Contact info@chapelcrafts.com or call Pamela on (01686) 640722.

Dial-a-ride service hits road



The Dial-a-Ride bus arriving in Welshpool with staff member Richard Anthony. Picture: Laura Outfield.

A NEW dial-a-ride service has taken to the road to link Oswestry and Welshpool with rural villages.

The service, which is run by Qube in Oswestry, will provide transport to rural areas and for those with mobility problems.

The scheme relies entirely on volunteer drivers and volunteer passenger escorts, and organisers are looking for more people to consider coming forward to offer to drive

the accessible mini buses or act as escorts. Passengers can arrange for a door-to-door service from the more out of the way parts of the area, and it is hoped that the elderly, disabled, and rurally isolated in the Oswestry area will use the service regularly.

For more details or to arrange for transport call Qube Transport on (01691) 671571.

Course at hall will honour Britten

MID Wales Opera will host a residential course at Gregynog Hall, near Welshpool, in September as part of the centenary celebrations of Benjamin Britten's birth.

Artistic director Nicholas Cleobury will lead the residency with guests along with composer and broadcaster Michael Berkeley, Britten biographer Paul Kildea and artistic director of Music Theatre Wales Michael McCarthy. They will discuss the operas of the composer.

"This short residential course will give those who know Britten's operatic works the chance to explore them in depth, and offer those less familiar the opportunity to learn about one of the greatest of Britain's composers," Mr Cleobury said.

Royal harpist Hannah Stone and young tenor Nicky Spence will perform a recital including extracts from an historic performance by Peter Pears and Osian Ellis at Gregynog in 1972, along with works written for Pears and Ellis by Michael Berkeley.

The event runs from September 4 to 6 and includes a trip to the premiere of MWO's new production at Theatr Hafren, Newtown.

See www.midwalesopera.co.uk, or e-mail gregynog@wales.ac.uk or calling (01686) 650224.

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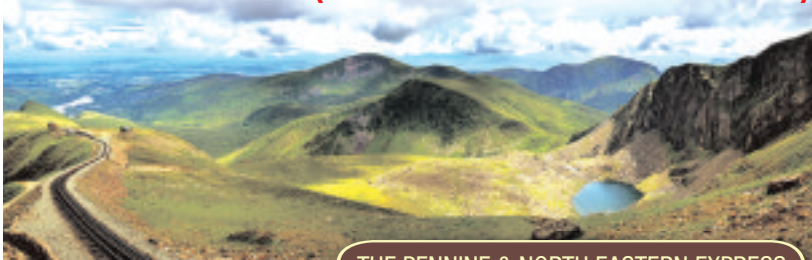
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WELSHPOOL

New arrival sets visitors to castle all a-flutter



The pea chick, which hatched last week, enjoys the outdoors at Powis Castle, with mum keeping a close watch.

A NEW arrival has caused a bit of a flutter with visitors to Powis Castle.

Visitors, staff and volunteers were delighted with the arrival of a baby peacock at the National Trust property last week.

The pea chick has already created quite a stir by taking an interest in visitors' lunches.

Ruth Scutter, assistant visitor services manager at the castle, said: "Most of the visitors want to take him or her

home with them. The baby's very cute. There's definitely a lot of interest."

"If any visitors head up here for their lunch, the baby is very interested in what they've got on their plates."

The pea chick, who will be named once it is old enough to work out if it is a boy or a girl, is Powis Castle's only arrival this summer so its mother, the peahen, is keeping a very close eye over it.

"The dad is called Alan, and he's very curious about the baby, but Mum's very protective over it," Ruth

said. Peacocks live for an average of 20 years, but if baby is male it will take two years for his spectacular tail feathers to grow.

Staff should be able to tell its gender by the time it is about five weeks old.

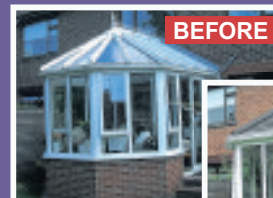
The hungry chick lives in the courtyard of the castle where visitors can see it during opening hours, daily from 11am to 5.30pm.

Visitors are asked not to feed chocolate to the chick as it is poisonous to peacocks.

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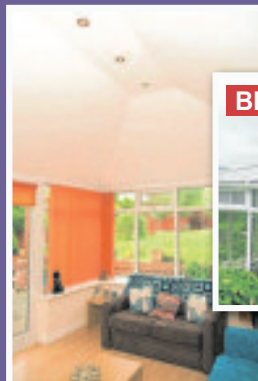


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NEWS

Festival to teach skills of the circus

A FESTIVAL of circus skills including juggling, acrobatics and fire spinning will be coming to Llanfyllin Workhouse next month.

PLAY Festival will include shows, workshops, music and kids' activities and will run from August 14-18.

Duncan Huxley from PLAY Festival says: "PLAY Festival arrived from a desire for a long weekend full of fun for people and families of all ages who have interests in circus skills."

"Running over five days/four nights there are (mostly) free workshops hosted by professionals and keen amateurs alike where you can learn the most basic or tune the most advanced of your circus skills."

"There are lots of shows throughout including the main Gala show and outdoor fire show, with live music and DJs."

"To help maintain the safe, family orientated and friendly atmosphere we do not sell day tickets, if you come we want you to stay for as long as you're able."

The festival has attracted performers from around the world, with Aileen Lawlor and Tony Pezzo from the USA, Spark fire dance from Australia, and Welsh youth circus Organised Kaos.

Tickets £75 adults, £35 juniors 12-16, £1 under 12s to include camping. Camper vans and caravans welcome, www.play-festival.co.uk

Floral glory takes centre stage for in bloom judging

OSWESTRY'S best floral displays took centre stage as judging took place for the Britain in Bloom competition.

Three judges from Heart of England in Bloom spent three hours walking around the town to see gardens, patios and public displays last Friday.

Afterwards, they praised the effort that had been put in, and especially the cleanliness of the town.

Roger Bache, vice chairman of Heart of England in Bloom, said: "It was excellent."

Cemetery

"We went around the town centre, the cemetery, the new Fairholme nursing home - and that was something special."

"The park was very, very good. There were lots of new things going on."

"The town is excellent and has the cleanest streets we've seen. They've made a special effort."

Fellow judge Mark Wiltshire said he was impressed with what he had seen around the town centre.

"The bedding in the park is beautiful," he said.

"It's been superb. We've seen lots of good things and it's been a really good effort. Oswestry has the cleanest streets we've seen this year."

"The safari sculptures

by Pam Griffin

around the town are unique. We liked them very much and we haven't seen anything like them before."

Betty Gull, chairwoman of the town's In Bloom committee, thanked the judges for their input and the inspiration created by the competition.

She said: "The judges put in huge amounts of time to hopefully raise standards all over the Midlands."

"We should thank them very much indeed for everything they do because I don't think without a competition like this we would ever have taken on the rather daunting job of trying to make Oswestry bloom."

The town will hear if it has won an award at a ceremony on September 12 to be held at Drayton Manor Park in Staffordshire.

And flowers remained in the spotlight this week when Margaret Thrower visited the town to judge the Oswestry in Bloom competition.



Chairwoman of the town's In bloom committee Betty Gull, judges Mark Wiltshire and Roger Bache and Mayor Chris Schofield at the start of the day's judging. Picture: Laura Duffield.

Council's markets shuttle bus plan

OSWESTRY'S open air and indoor markets could get a boost after transport bosses agreed to look at providing bus services on market days.

David Preston, clerk of Oswestry Town Council, wrote to Shropshire Council's passenger transport team to ask if local bus services could be diverted on market days to drop customers off near the market.

He said: "Looking long term, it is also suggested the shuttle bus from the Smithfield could also look to incorporate a route that involves the market." Both markets are based at the Bailey Head and run on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with the indoor market in Powis Hall also open on Fridays.

The town council has now received a reply from Shropshire Council's highways and transport planning commissioner (North) Matt Johnson. In his letter, Mr Johnson said he would pass on the suggestion so that it could be assessed.

He said: "On the matter of services resulting from developments in the town, I would be quite happy to look at the routing of these in light of the town council's comments when the detail on this service is finalised."

Oswestry Town Council's markets and car parks committee was meeting last night (Wednesday) to discuss the idea further.

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Most employees are honest but the simple fact is that employees are well placed to steal from their employer if they are minded to do so. For small and medium sized businesses the risk can be greater because the accounting models are usually less sophisticated than in larger companies.

Theft from employers can vary from the crude, such as simply pocketing cash, to the more complicated, such as setting up a false supplier. Of course, not all employee theft is financial. Stock, particularly that which has a high resale value on the black market, and information such as intellectual property,

customer databases or pricing models have a financial value to the dishonest employee.

But this won't happen to me? The fact is that in 2010 KPMG identified 140 cases of employee fraud with an estimated overall cost to the UK economy of approximately £548 million. It is accepted that this is just

the tip of the iceberg because the calculation ignored all cases below £100,000 and it was only based on those who were actually caught. Theft comes straight off your bottom line. What extra work would you need to do to recover that gross profit?

What you don't do

When you suspect that an employee is stealing from your business the obvious temptation is just to sack that individual. And most people would say that is absolutely the right thing to do. In fact it is probably the worst!

Sacking an employee without going through a recognised disciplinary procedure will almost certainly open the door to the possibility of an unfair dismissal claim. It is worth remembering that the employment tribunal is generally a cost free forum so even if you successfully defend the claim it is likely that you'll have to pay the associated costs. There's also the wasted management time in dealing with the matter.

You also need to give some thought to exactly how much may have been stolen and the likelihood of recovering that money. That means

gathering evidence and a sacked employee is more likely than not to start covering his or her tracks by destroying anything that might be of evidential value.

So in the worse case scenario, just sacking the employee suspected of theft may result in an expensive unfair dismissal claim and no prospect of recovering whatever was stolen.

And if you want an extreme example of getting wrong: remember Simon Cremer who discovered an employee had written a company cheque made payable to himself and frog-marched him through the town wearing a signing saying "Thief. I stole £845 am on my way to police station"? He was sued for £5,000 for trauma and distress, lost at trial and was ordered to pay a further £40,000 in legal costs.

That's an expensive mistake!



What You Should Do

Most small and medium sized businesses do not have an in house HR or legal function, so the first thing you should do is take the right advice. And your business doesn't stop just because you have a problem, so you cannot ignore the day-to-day job. It is all too easy for employers to get drawn into these issues, which is when rash and costly decisions are made.

What Paul Wiseman Investigations, GHP Legal and Robinson Bailiff Services offer is a cost effective and risk managed solution to these problems. This is a unique service offered by an association of three local businesses where you can employ an expert in fraud investigation together with a specialist employment and litigation solicitor to work collaboratively in the interests of your business. We will protect your business and deal with the disciplinary process in a compliant way, whilst also considering exactly what may have been taken and how you can

recover what has been stolen assuming you wish to go down that avenue. That might be by handing over the evidence to the police, using the civil courts or a combination of the two. We can also advise you on anti-fraud measures that can be put in place to minimise the risk of further losses.

If you do decide that you want to recover any money stolen then GHP Legal will already have an understanding of the case and can quickly advise you on the merits of a civil claim: it being a legally different thing bringing a claim in the civil courts from justifying a dismissal in an employment tribunal. We will make sure that it is worth pursuing the employee if that is what you want to do.

We will also advise you on enforcing any judgment. Enforcement costs are fixed by the court and are a lot less than a lawyer would ordinarily charge, so the majority of this work is handled by a certificated bailiff who has direct access to a solicitor as required. In short, we give you the right person at the right time for the right job and, importantly, for the right price.



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Paul Wiseman Investigations specialises in helping companies fight fraud in their business, allowing business owners to do what they do best - Run their business.

Paul has over 10 years experience in fraud investigation, and is supported by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and the Fraud Advisory Panel.

When evidence of a crooked employee begins to emerge, it is vital that the situation is handled swiftly, compliantly and professionally to avoid unnecessary costs at a later date.

Paul helps companies deal with crooked employees; guiding them through the disciplinary process (following ACAS guidelines), assisting them with the recovery of assets, and liaising with the police if they wish to prosecute.

He also assists companies in fraud risk assessment and installs policies to protect them from recent legislation such as the Bribery Act 2010.

Paul Wiseman Investigations in association with GHP Legal and Robinson Bailiff Services is able to provide a unique budget driven ONE STOP SHOP to catch, sue, prosecute and enforce judgments on crooked employees.

GHP Legal

GHP Legal is an eleven-partner law firm offering a wide spectrum of legal services from offices in Wrexham, Oswestry and Llangollen. With specialist solicitors in employment law and commercial litigation, including solicitor-advocates, GHP Legal is well placed to advise business owners who face not only the problems identified in this article but with any manner of commercial difficulty that might arise. GHP Legal can also offer personal advice to business owners as required.

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The use of our Certificated Bailiff can help recover your commercial rent arrears quickly. Once you have completed a rent warrant or warrant to enter, a Certificated Bailiff is able to act immediately throughout England and Wales to secure the interests of the landlord. As there is no need for Court action it normally provides the commercial landlord or his agent with a rapid solution to a rent arrear problem.

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NEWS

in brief

Craft stall plea for music event

THE organisers of a folk music event to be held in a village near Oswestry are looking for craft makers to run stalls at the event.

Llanwddyn Day of Folk & Acoustic Music will be held on September 7 in three large marquees.

There will be space for about 20 stalls, and organisers are hoping to attract a range of craft tables, food stalls and tradespeople.

A space will cost £10 and sellers will need to provide their own table or display stand. For more details log on to www.lanwddyn.co.uk or call Ruth on (01691) 870501.

Celtic laments in singer's concert

WELSH folktales and celtic laments will fill the air in Whittington, near Oswestry, later this month with a concert by singer, songwriter and musician, Sian James.

Born in Llanerfyl, Sian has released a number of CDs and has many film and television credits on Welsh language television.

The concert will be held on July 27 at 7.30pm. Tickets, at £8 to include a glass of wine, are available from (01691) 681036.

Songs of praise

THE parish of Llanwddyn will be celebrating its patron saint's day with a songs of praise service.

St Wddyn's Day falls on August 8 and the church will be celebrating on Sunday, August 11, at 6.30pm.

Mature students improve chance of a better career

A GROUP of 56 mature students have celebrated their academic achievements after completing an Access to Higher Education course.

The students have spent the past year studying at the Oswestry campus of Walford College, and were presented with their certificates in an awards ceremony last week.

Paul Cordey, head of faculty for arts and science, said that 43 of the students attended the ceremony, while the remaining 13 were either at work or on holiday.

by Graham Breeze

Gallery hunts exhibits for an autumn show

AN art gallery in Oswestry is calling for entries for its natural selection-themed exhibition to be held in September.

The Willow Gallery in Willow Street is inviting artists to enter contemporary, innovative and traditional works of art to be considered for exhibition.

Submissions in a range of media from painting, drawing and sculpture to textiles, photography and video.

The gallery will also be organising a film event, art workshops and other events connected with the exhibition and is looking for people who would be interesting in running an event or workshop. Entry forms are available from the gallery or by e-mailing willowgalleryoswestry@gmail.com and should be submitted by August 29. The show opens on September 6 for six weeks.

"They're students who really have got a second opportunity to change their careers," he said.

"It could be someone who didn't have the chance to do A-levels and came back to get that qualification now, or it could be people who are in jobs and their qualifications won't allow them to progress in their work."

"We have quite a lot of people in nursing jobs who want to become nurses and midwives but can't until they get the qualifications to allow them to study for that."

"We have someone else who is going on to do a history degree and others who want to become teachers."

Mr Cordey said the students should all be proud of their achievements.

He said: "There are a lot of people who have had children and their children have gone to school now, meaning they have the time to do the course."

"We have child-friendly hours, starting at just after 9am and finishing at 3pm, but it's not an easy course."

"It's intensive but I think there is a great deal of satisfaction that comes from finishing the course."

Among the students who qualified was Laura Viner, who was also presented with a cheque for £500 after being named student of the year for the West Midlands.

"She did an access to health course. She was thrilled to win the award and she completely deserved it," Mr Cordey said.



Students Nat Hardgrave and Catherine Jones receive their certificates from Paul Cordey, head of faculty for arts and science, at the higher education access awards at the Oswestry campus of Walford College. Picture: Peter Shah.

Sounds of 1940s to feature at nightspot

CLUBBERS will be taking a step back to the 1940s when a series of themed nights begin at an Oswestry nightspot this weekend.

Organisers say the themed nights will be a "huge departure" from the usual Oswestry club scene.

The first night, held at the Ironworks in Church Street on Saturday, will focus on music from the 1940s.

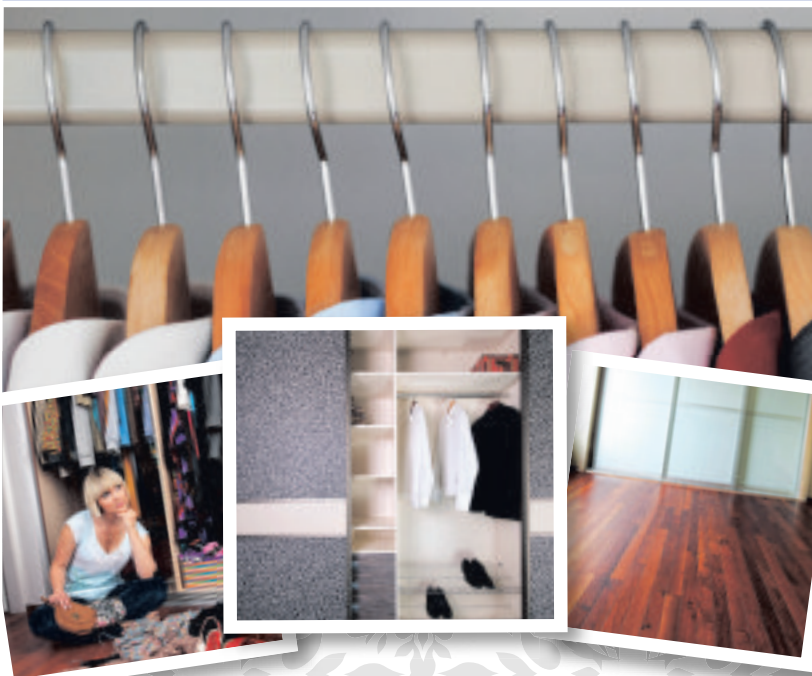
Clubbers will be dancing to the tunes of the seven piece Chicago Swing Katz group at the Ironworks.

Adam Howes from Rocco Events said: "With a seven-piece swing band, a glass of bubbly on arrival and free swing dance tuition if you want to learn how to do it all properly, the night promises to be a huge departure from the normal Oswestry scene."

"Whether you want to dress up like the style icons of the 40s and jitterbug the night away, or simply want to be transported back to another time and enjoy a demure night of fun in elegant surroundings, all without fear of Justin Bieber ruining the whole thing, this event promises to deliver."

The Evening of 1940s Swing night will start from 8pm. Tickets cost £6 and include a free glass of bubbly and optional dance tuition.

They are available from The Ironworks on (01691) 679123 or by emailing info@the-ironworks.co.uk.



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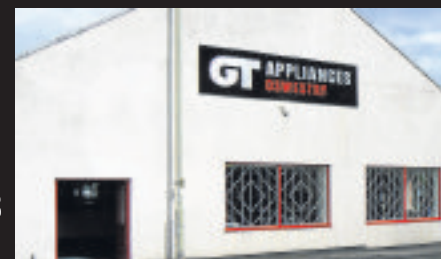
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NEWS

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Councillor says ShropDoc service 'vital' for patients

Shoppers help stock foodbank



Sam Richards and Sarah Rogers, from Sainsbury's in Oswestry, welcome the return of the food bank. Picture: Peter Shah.

AN Oswestry supermarket is helping to make sure the town's poorest folk don't go hungry this year.

A trolley has been set up at the entrance foyer to the town's Sainsbury's supermarket.

Customers are being urged to drop off long life food items into the trolley with all the goods being passed on to Oswestry and Border Foodbank.

The foodbank distributes food to the area's worst off through a voucher system.

Staff at Sainsbury's said they were delighted to play a part in bringing some comfort to those badly off and thanked their customers for the support.

Hannah Lloyd, customer service desk assistant, said: "The foodbank was our charity of the year last year and proved a huge success.

"Our charity of the year is the Bone Cancer Trust but customers in Oswestry also asked if we could do a trolley for the foodbank again this year, too.

"They have been really generous.

"The trolley is emptied twice a week and it is normally packed.

"We use our biggest trolley, the large

Teenagers get an insight into the world of finance

TEENAGERS from schools in Oswestry had an insight into life in world of finance with the Oswestry Rotary Club's annual Investment Competition for schools and colleges.

The winning team proved so successful it made a 30 per cent virtual profit.

Run in conjunction with the Oswestry branch of HSBC Bank, the competition provided an opportunity to broaden students' interest in business studies and provide them with an insight into the UK Stock Market.

The two teams from the Marches School and four teams from Oswestry School had to research the stock market, select the shares they wished to purchase and manage their investments.

Each team began the competition with a 'virtual' £10,000.

With these funds, they were required to purchase stocks and shares available on the UK stock market.

They could make changes to their

investments once a month, if they wished and were required to closely monitor their portfolios.

The year nine Marches School teams finished first and second, with the winning team - Emily Davies, Grace Meredith, Jasmin Marzelos and Cameron Hughes - achieving £3,669 profit from their investments.

As a result of their successful investments, students have been awarded £25 each and a HSBC goody bag and the Marches school received a cheque for £100.

Emily said: "This has been a really good opportunity to find out more about the stock market and I'm so pleased we won." Rotarian Christopher Perry said: "Huge congratulations to the winning students for achieving a 30 per cent profit on their investment.

"I would be over the moon if I could do the same."

AN Oswestry councillor who led the fight against plans to change the county's NHS out-of-hours health hotline says it is "vital" ShropDoc is allowed to carry on providing the service in the long-term.

GPs in Oswestry were the first in the county to raise concerns about the introduction of the NHS 111 system when they warned town councillors of their worries at a meeting in January.

They feared NHS 111 call handlers would not have the clinical experience to offer the correct advice and the system would not be as effective as the ShropDoc service.

The new system has suffered various problems since it was launched in March and has had to rely on the ShropDoc service to bail it out.

Town councillor Paul Milner, who is also a member of the Oswestry Plas Ffynnon surgery patients' group, has been campaigning since January against the introduction of the 111 system.

He said GPs' worries in January proved correct and called for the out-of-hours system to remain with ShropDoc in the long term.

He said: "The Oswestry Health Group, which includes Owen Paterson MP and councillors and health professionals, met earlier this month and it was acknowledged then that the launch of the 111 system had been unsuccessful.

"The health group sent out a clear message that they wanted to see ShropDoc carry

by Iain St John

on providing the service and I think that is something we would all want.

"There has been a lot of concerns about the 111 system and I think it is brilliant news that ShropDoc will be carrying on the service in the immediate future.

"What I would really like to see is ShropDoc run the serving the longer term, even if it is under the 111 number."

In January, Dr Paul Middleton speaking on behalf of all of Oswestry's surgeries, said ShropDoc had been independently audited as one of the best out of hours services in the UK.

He told councillors in pilot projects the use of the NHS 111 system had increased ambulance calls from three per cent to 11 per cent and A&E attendances from 2.5 per cent to 5.6 per cent of calls.

Councillor Milner said: "I believe ShropDoc provides a superior service to that offered by 111 in other parts of the country."

Chinese lantern alert after blaze at recycling plant

FIRE bosses are warning people in the Welshpool area to think carefully about the use of Chinese lanterns after a huge fire at a recycling plant.

Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service said the fire at the plastic recycling factory in Smethwick was a prime example of the risk the lanterns cause.

The service said people should think hard before they release the lanterns in future and to avoid agricultural areas altogether.

Holly Wood, fire service spokeswoman, said: "Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service is encouraging people to think about the use of Chinese lanterns after a fire at the Smethwick recycling plant last week.

"The blaze was started when a lantern dropped onto bales of plastic.

"The incident is a prime example of fire risk due to incorrect handling, unspent fuel cells and other unplanned deviations when using flying lanterns.

"As flying lanterns are becoming increasingly popular as a means of celebration, there is more need to be aware of the risks and considerations when using flying lanterns.

"Lanterns are generally made from paper which is usually made fire resistant.

"Sizes, shapes and flying times vary depending on the manufacturer, though average flying times are around six to eight minutes but can be as long as 20 minutes.

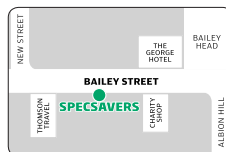
"Flying lanterns should always come with full instructions and additional information should be available from the manufacturers."

She said areas to be avoided include fields with crops, buildings with thatched roofs, woodland and areas of heath or bracken.

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NEWS

NEWS

in brief

Bird ringing plan at lakeside centre

THE RSPB centre at Lake Vyrnwy will be holding a bird ringing session on July 28 to give visitors the chance to see some of the birds at close quarters.

Staff will be catching and ringing birds from 1am until 10am at the RSPB shop next to the lake, and explaining how bird ringing helps them learn more about the birds that live at the lake.

To book in advance call (01691) 870278. Spaces are limited and participation costs £5 adults and £2.50 RSPB members.

Later there is a binocular and telescope demonstration from 10.30am.

Science day fun for schoolchildren

MORE than 100 year six pupils attended a science day at Corbett School in Baschurch.

The theme of the day was forensic science and pupils were acting as crime scene investigators.

Five science laboratories were dedicated to a variety of different activities, ranging from fingerprinting to flame testing. The activities were led by science teachers, technicians and year nine students.

Summer fete day

THERE is a summer fete is at Dolyvern, near Chirk, on Saturday from 2pm. Stalls will include cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, tombola and crafts.

Proposals for affordable homes given go-ahead

PROPOSALS to provide affordable homes in villages in the Oswestry area have been given the go-ahead as part of wider plans by county housing bosses to get local people on the property ladder.

Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, Shropshire Council's new property management service, lodged a series of planning applications earlier this year to build a total of 62 affordable homes at various sites in the county.

Several of the applications have been given the go-ahead by planning bosses and among those granted permission is an application to build three homes on land at the Willows in West Felton which is currently used for parking and for garages.

by Graham Breeze

Musical duo's return to town

A MUSICAL duo from Ukraine will be making a welcome return to Oswestry tonight (Thursday) after earning rave reviews following their last appearance.

Dark Patrick performed at the Ironworks in Oswestry in March and will be staging a return gig at the Church Street venue as part of the band's UK summer tour.

The six-week tour includes appearances at the Hidden Hill Festival in Lincs Wold, Camden Rock in London and the Llanfyllin Workhouse Festival.

Dark Patrick have had extensive airplay on BBC Radio 6, Radio 3 and Radio Shropshire, and were recently featured as a "fresh fave" in BBC DJ Tom Robinson's music blog.

Oswestry's Neil Phillips and world music/folk trio, Les Glaneurs, will be in support. Tickets are available from Outwhere Records on Oswestry's Beatrice Street and from the Ironworks. Entry on the door is £7.

The plans will see one wheelchair accessible bungalow and two three-bed homes.

Plans for four affordable homes on land between Hammonds Place and Foxes Field in Gobowen have also been approved.

Regenerate

A statement in support of that application said the proposal would regenerate an area of the village which was currently used for garages. The go-ahead has also been given to plans for four homes on land adjacent Gatacre Avenue in Oswestry.

Applications lodged by the housing group for homes in other areas including Babinswood, Whittington and Maesbury Marsh, are still to be decided by planners.

Housing chiefs hope to provide the 62 affordable properties in the county by March 2015.

Art work on show

STUDENTS from Llanfyllin High School hosted an exhibition of creative textiles, fine art and 3D work to show off what they had been learning over the past year.

The show was held in the school's Theatre Llwyn.

Footballers are good sports



Chirk Youth Under-14s team is celebrating after coming runners-up in a sportsmanship award.

A YOUTH football team from Chirk is celebrating coming near the top of the league for sportsmanship after a sea change in how they conduct themselves on the field.

Every club in the Wrexham and District Under-14s Football League grades opponents, their supporters and management team on how sporting they were during games. A league table is produced which shows which team was found to be the most sporting.

And after coming bottom of the sportsmanship league last year, members of the Chirk Youth Under-14s team is celebrating after coming run-

ners-up this year. Members of the team management said the boys had to be praised for their efforts this season, particularly because results on their pitch had not gone so well.

Paula Edwards, chairman of Chirk Youth, said: "The results have been tough this season and I think we only won about four games."

"But we are delighted to have done so well in the sportsmanship league."

"The boys were bottom last year and now they have come runners up this year which is great."

"They have kept going despite the results not going their way."

Teenage musician will tour Australia

A 13-YEAR-OLD from Ellesmere is heading for Australia as part of a tour by a group of the best young percussionists from around Shropshire.

Michael Doyle, a year eight pupil at Ellesmere College who plays the drums, will be touring Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide with Percussion Unlimited.

The group will go on a 24-day trip from August 18.

Michael said: "I have always wanted to play drums from an early age and it's great to be achieving recognition for all the hard work and drum lessons."

"It's also really nice to perform in concerts such as the one at Lower School and in the Oswestry Music Festival and I am really looking forward to the trip."

He was also part of a small group of talented musicians to be selected for a bursary from the Oswestry and District Art Association to support his trip to Australia, where he will be one of only ten percussionists from the county.

Director of music at Ellesmere College, Roger Paul, said: "This is a great opportunity for Michael, he is performing at such a high standard for his age and to get the experience of travelling to Australia and performing in various venues is a real life experience that he will never forget."

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SUMMER FUN

Artful addition to lawns for the delight of visitors

Advertisement feature

POWIS Castle has a wealth of art on its walls, in sculptures in the gardens – and now on the lawn itself.

Every summer, the gardeners at the National Trust castle in Welshpool create a piece of art on the Great Lawn for visitors to admire.

Popular designs have included a Welsh dragon, the word croeso – Welsh for welcome – a fleur-de-lis and a labyrinth.

Now the 2013 art has been unveiled, a detailed design which is based upon the wood carvings on the fireplaces in Powis Castle's state dining room.

Ruth Scutter, assistant visitor services manager said: "It's great that the design can be enjoyed by all our visitors, whether admiring it from our castle and terraces or getting closer to its twists and turns, running around its path. The design fits in well with the National Trust's campaign '50 things to do before you're 11 and ¾' and we're already seeing families tick off number 24 – "go on a walk barefoot" as they trace the outlines."

The carvings were designed by architect GF Bodley who was employed in 1902 by George Herbert, the 4th Earl of Powis, who was keen to update Powis Castle whilst retaining its Jacobean style.

Between 1903 and 1905 £15,182 – the equivalent of more than a million pounds in today's money – was spent on the renovations, which included changes to the Oak Room, the state dining room and the Duke's room as well as the installation of electricity and central heating throughout the castle. Powis Castle remains Bodley's only intact



Lawn art at Powis Castle.

domestic interior available for the public to view.

"We're delighted to see the castle and gardens brought together, celebrating Powis through the eyes of the Edwardian era and bringing our interiors outside."

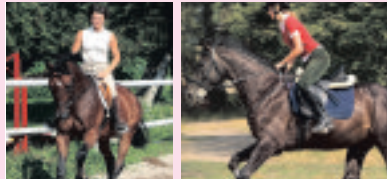
Visitors can marvel at both the lawn art and the original design on the fireplaces. Normal admission prices apply. Powis Castle began life as the

medieval fortress of the Welsh princes of Powys, who held on to their kingdom despite the threats of their more powerful neighbours in Gwynedd and England.

In 1587, Powis was sold to Sir Edward Herbert who created the romantic long gallery which is richly decorated with the coats of arms of his ancestors.

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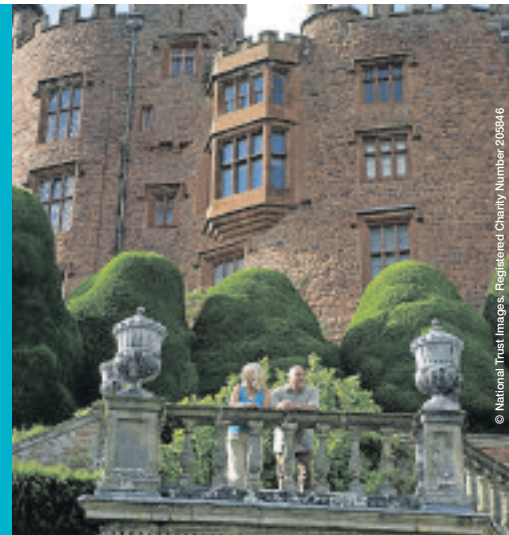
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NEWS**NEWS**

in brief

Creepy theme for reading challenge

CHILDREN in the Oswestry area will find creepy fun awaiting them at libraries this summer.

From last Saturday youngsters aged five to 11 can pick up a free summer reading challenge pack.

The challenge is to read six books during the summer holiday, collecting stickers, goodies and a medal along the way.

There are lots of activities connected to this year's theme too.

Sign up events for the Creepy House Summer Reading Challenge have been held at Oswestry, Gobowen and Ellesmere libraries.

£12,000 for lights work is approved

THE go-ahead has been given to spend nearly £12,000 on emergency repairs to Oswestry's Christmas lights.

An inspection by experts found "major issues" with the lighting system, town councillors were told.

Councillors agreed to a tender of £7,260 for repairs to the electrical infrastructure and to delegate the decision on the preferred features for the Central Car Park lighting columns at a cost of up to £4,000.

Gardeners meet

TREFONEN and District Gardening Club meets tonight (Thursday) at 7.30pm in the village hall to hear guest speaker Martin Blow talk on late summer and autumn colours.

Safari trail proving to be a hit with town visitors

A UNIQUE safari trail is proving to be a hit with visitors to Oswestry, councillors have said.

More than 30 lifesize metal sculptures of animals have been placed in and around the town in a project between Shropshire Council, Oswestry Town Council and the British Ironworks Centre at Aston which has donated the sculptures.

The trail includes a giant gorilla outside the Marches School on Morda Road and a sculpture of an eagle at Oswestry School.

The project has even spread further afield, with a sculpture of a huge rhino being installed at Derwen College in Gobowen.

Visitors follow the trail by downloading information from the internet.

Councillor Rebecca Evans told a meeting of the town council's amenities committee that some of her friends recently visited Oswestry with their small children and took part in the trail.

She said the visitors enjoyed it and suggested that a printed map could be published to allow more people to take part.

Councillor Chris Stokes said he had been asked by people how long the sculptures would be in place.

Facilities manager Glenys Davies said the trail organisers didn't want to publish printed maps because the trail was not yet complete.

She said: "British Ironworks are thinking about it but things are changing all the time. They don't want to send people on a goose chase. They are not there forever. It will be about 12 months to how it goes."

Cllr Paul Milner said he had received a request from a parent to have warning signs advising children not to climb into a protective cage which has been installed around a sculpture of a deer in Cae Glas Park.

However, Councillor Martin Bennett said: "We are almost in the realms where we have to print warnings on packets of peanuts saying 'may contain peanuts'."

"The reason the fence is around the deer is to keep children away from it."

by Iain St John

Music mix a pleasure for all at festival

MUSIC lovers have been treated to a mix of modern and classical performances at the Llanfyllin Music Festival.

The festival kicked off with a concert by the Allegri Quartet performing Alec Roth's 3rd String Quartet, entitled *Autumnalis*, which premiered only a few weeks earlier.

Margaret Clennett, Llanfyllin Music Festival co-chairwoman, said: "Everyone I spoke to was thrilled. Alec himself came up to Llanfyllin from his home in Malvern. He gave us some background about the composition and explained the four movements of the piece. The couple from Salisbury who originally commissioned him to write it travelled all the way from Salisbury."

"Modern music is not everyone's cup of tea, and I am not keen on much of it myself, but this was different - lyrical, melodic, exciting and a pleasure to listen to."

Sun shines on nurseries



NED Jones from Lynclys Nurseries welcomes the sunshine, making sure his precious plants are kept well watered during the hot spell. Picture: Peter Shah.

Cafe team will hold open day for young

THE team at Oswestry Youth Cafe has a range of activities planned to keep young people aged nine and above occupied this summer.

Staff and volunteers are arranging an open day on July 30 from 2pm to 6pm aimed at children in Year 5 and 6 of the local primary schools. They will tell them about the activities available.

Organiser Liz Jones said: "Having the cafe open during the summer holidays is a priority for our members. They enjoy coming in and meeting friends, using the internet, playing pool, table soccer and taking part in the art attack sessions on Thursdays. We have leafleted the schools and members have been invited to bring a friend with them."

The cafe's committee recently agreed that they would like to increase the number of youngsters registered as members.

Chairman Greg Hickman said: "We have members and volunteers that have been with us since the cafe opened 11 years ago and have found that joining us at nine they gain a mutual understanding of how we operate and flourish. Our older members act as mentors and often come her for work experience."

For details call Liz Jones on (01691) 656559 or e-mail oyc@hotmail.co.uk

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BUTTERFLY BEAUTIQUE**Salon is latest addition to award-winning spot****Advertisement feature**

BUTTERFLY Beautique is the latest addition to Oswestry's award winning shopping venue at Old Chapel Court.

Previously situated at Welsh Walls, Katie O'Hara and Mike Mounsey have relocated their business to meet a growing demand and will be welcoming current and new customers with a glass of celebratory bubbly on Saturday between 10am and 4pm.

Butterfly Beautique opened in Oswestry in 2012 to provide a wide range of up-to-date beauty treatments from qualified and trained technicians in a stylish and modern environment and has many loyal clients throughout Shropshire who appreciate the quality of treatments and the professional and personal service.

Katie has nine years' experience in the business and specialises in HD Brows, Shellac Nails and Lash Perfect eyelash extensions.

Mike is proud to announce a unique shaving experience for men and with a combination of hot and cold towels and 99 per cent organic products can guarantee the closest shave around.

Jess Williams is the newest stylist. She is the salon's first specialist in hair extensions offering clip, hair, micro bonds and fusion bond extensions. Luscious looks also has a great portfolio for wedding and occasion hair.

Demonstrations will be taking place all day on Saturday including shaving, teeth whitening and all the latest beauty treatments.

And as an added bonus the company is offering clients up to two hours' free parking in Central Car Park with refunds paid on treatment payment.

To make an appointment or for more information contact Butterfly Beautique on 01691 676326 or visit their Facebook page.



Katie O'Hara and Mike Mounsey at Butterfly Beautique in Oswestry.
Picture: Peter Flemmich.

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**Music Makers**

We shall be closing our doors finally at Old Chapel Court in August prior to relocating the Music Makers business

As from Tuesday 2nd September 2013 we will be operating from our home/office

Telephone: 01691 654510

Email: shop@musicmakers-oswestry.co.uk

We will continue to stock an extensive selection of printed music (including ABRSM exam material) and tutor books for all grades. Also strings, accessories and student instruments at competitive prices.

Local delivery a pleasure - or postal service - or collection through local pick-up points (details on request).

We thank all our customers for your support over the years in Oswestry and hope we may continue to provide the music service you require in the future.

Terry and Doreen Spain



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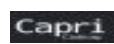
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Cheese and wine evening to raise cash for African charity



Stephen and Ann Lovick laying out a feast for the visitors. Pictures: Peter Flemmich.



Fiona and Allen Hammond holding the raffle at the charity evening for The Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust, at Park Farm Nursery in Kinnerley.



Rosemary Ffoulkes-Jones baked some cakes.



Barbara Tomkiss and Pauline Davies.



Providing the music, from left, Helen Jones, Lorraine Grey and Alan Leyland from Jigsty.

CHEESE and wine were on the menu at a charity evening held in aid of an African animal welfare organisation.

The event was organised by Christine Ffoulkes Jones at Park Farm Nursery in Kinnerley, near Oswestry, in aid of The Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust.

by Andrew Morris

Guests were able to enjoy live music from Jigsty and wander through the nursery's award-winning flowerbeds and colourful displays.

The event also included a raffle and a bring and buy stall.

Mrs Ffoulkes Jones said: "The event was

a great success and we had plenty of people who came and enjoyed the sights of the nursery while enjoying themselves with a glass of wine and some cheese.

"They could check out what we have here and the money is going to a good cause in The Gambia which looks after horses and donkeys."

Money raised will be donated to The Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust, which

helps to keep horses and donkeys healthy.

A healthy working animal can increase its owner's income by up to 500 per cent, and so the family suffers as a result if the animal is sick or dies.

Mrs Ffoulkes Jones added: "We would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the event and hope they had a fantastic time on what was a gorgeous evening."

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Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Superb period residence ideal for equestrian fans

A double fronted Victorian property with extensive outbuildings, land and superb equestrian facilities is on the market with Town & Country. With business/development potential, Bron Y Gadfa Farm at Rhos Y Gadfa, near Wrexham, is for sale at a guide price of £650,000.

A spokesman for the selling agents said: "The property boasts approximately six acres of land, purpose built stable block, covered hardstanding, Dutch barn and numerous brick built out-

buildings. It therefore offers great scope for use as a business premises, with the potential to run a separate holiday cottage scheme (subject to planning). The location is ideal for horse riding, being accessible to the Brynkinallt Estate". The accommodation comprises a porch, entrance hall, lounge with open fireplace, dining room, kitchen/family room with beamed ceiling, range cooker with gas hob and a dishwasher, utility, boot room, five bedrooms (bedroom

five/study), bathroom, gravelled parking area for several cars with double wrought iron gates and a superb garden, hay barn, store room, timber workshop, rear yard, gym, office, Shippon, a garage, two open loose boxes, stables, main workshop, brick outhouse and six separate paddocks as well as a grass exercise track in the summer months.

Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 or visit www.townandcountryoswestry.com



Individual family home offers panoramic views

An attractive and individual detached family home, Winch House, Glyn Lane, Pant, has spacious and adaptable accommodation with superb views across the Shropshire Plain and to the Breidden Hills. It is for sale through Halls at £375,000.

There is a reception hall, lounge, sun lounge with far-reaching views and a balcony, dining room, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, utility, cloakroom, master bedroom with ensuite, main bathroom, two further double bedrooms, landscaped gardens, ample parking and turning space, car port, double garage, greenhouse and space for a caravan. For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit the website www.hallsestateagents.co.uk



Substantial bungalow is immaculately appointed

A spacious detached bungalow, 21 Boot Street, Oswestry, boasts two ensembles plus an additional guest shower room.

The three double bedroomed property is for sale with Bowen Son & Watson, who are seeking offers in the region of £315,000.

The accommodation also comprises an open plan lounge/dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, double glazing and gas-fired central heating.

For further information contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



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Halls



Belan, Llanfyllin
Price: £375,000

This detached family home offers spacious accommodation with detached barn and 6.1 acres of pasture land

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- 2 Conservatories
- Detached Barn Offering 346 Sq Metres
- Solar Panels
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



Fitzgwarine Drive, Whittington
Price: £159,950

This three bedroom semi detached property is situated in a popular residential area within walking distance to Whittington Castle and the playing fields.

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



Golfa Isaf Barn, Llangedwyn
Price: £399,950

An immaculate individual detached barn conversion situated in a most picturesque rural location tucked away from the passing lane. This stone barn formed part of the Llangedwyn Estates and is located in a delightful, private wooded location close to the Rivers Tanat and Cynllaith.

- Located in a delightful, private wooded location
- Close To Rivers Tanat & Cynllaith
- 3 Bed House & 1 Bed Annexe
- Character & Charm Throughout
- Secluded Position
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



White House, Kinnerley
Price: £399,950

A four bedroom detached family home offering adaptable and versatile accommodation set in 1.670 acres and located down a quiet country lane

- 4 Bed Property
- Annex Or Holiday Let Potential
- Brook, Woodland & Pasture
- Range Of Outbuildings
- Viewing Recommended
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Overton Road, St Martins
Price: £199,500

This detached three double bedroom bungalow has undergone a full scheme of renovation and now provides a most comfortable and spacious property.

- 3 Double Bedroom
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Garage & Parking
- Four Piece Bathroom
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Russell Street, Cefn Mawr
Price: £199,950

This deceptively spacious semi detached Victorian Villa sits prominently overlooking the Vale of Llangollen.

- Accommodation Over 4 Floors
- 3 Bedrooms & 2 Store Rooms
- Double Garage & Parking
- Character & Charm
- Gardens
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



Queens Road, Oswestry
Price: £210,000

A 4/5 bedroom period property with original features situated in a sought after location close to Oswestry town.

- 4/5 Bed Period Property
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gardens & Parking
- Over Three Floors
- Sought After Location
- Current EPC Rating F

Contact Oswestry



Bryn Cottage, Llwynmawr, Glyn Ceiriog
Price: £399,950

A rare opportunity to purchase a detached country cottage with approx 20 acres of woodland with babbling brook and superb unspoilt views.

- 2 Bedroom (Both With En-Suites)
- First Floor Conservatory With Views
- Secluded Location
- Approx 20 Acres Of Woodland
- Viewing Advised

Contact Oswestry



Croeswylan Lane, Oswestry
Price: £349,950

An imposing 1930's detached family home situated in a most sought after residential area of Oswestry.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3/4 Reception Rooms
- Spacious Rooms Over 3 Floors
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Garage & Parking
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



Breidden Court, Four Crosses
Price: £316,000

An executive detached four bedroom family bungalow situated down a quiet lane in the popular village of Four Crosses.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Detached Double Garage & Parking
- Oil Central Heating
- Gardens To Front, Side & Rear
- Village Location

Contact Oswestry



Westview, Hengoed
Price: £300,000

An individually designed spacious detached family home offering four bedrooms and four reception rooms.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 4 Reception Rooms
- Set In 1.13 Acres
- Oil CH & DG
- Semi Rural Hamlet Location
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Whitefriars, Oswestry
Price: £145,000

A three bedroom semi detached family home which has been excellently maintained and is situated on a corner plot with large side garden, garage, two reception rooms and three bedrooms.

- 3 Bedroom
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Garage & Parking
- Corner Plot
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Cae Glas, St Martins Road, Gobowen
Price: £149,500

This three bedroom 1930's semi detached family home situated in a most convenient location within walking distance to Gobowen Station and also has shops and countryside walks.

- 3 Bedrooms
- Views To Welsh Hills
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Character Features

Contact Oswestry



Offas Park, Four Crosses
Price: £249,950

An immaculate detached family home built in 2000 offering spacious accommodation situated in generous gardens with double garage.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Triple Aspect Lounge
- Oil CH & DG
- Double Garage & Parking
- Village Location
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech
Price: £364,950

An immaculate South facing detached family home in excellent decorative order throughout with views to the Breidden Hills in the distance.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Parking
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- LPG Gas CH & DG
- NHBC Guarantee

Contact Oswestry



Paddock Cottage, Nantmawr
Price: £329,000

A beautifully appointed and attractively designed modern detached country house with landscaped gardens having mature trees, hedges and shrubs, adjoining paddock and detached outbuilding, set in APPROXIMATELY TWO ACRES of hillside grazing.

- 3 Bed (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gardens, Orchard & Paddock
- Outbuilding
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Ashgrove, Morda
Price: £119,950

This three bedroom semi detached family home benefits from countryside views to the rear.

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Popular Village Location
- Countryside Views To The Rear

Contact Oswestry



Riverdale, Llansantffraid
Price: £239,950

This truly wonderful Victorian family home is immaculate throughout and benefits from elevated River frontage. Having undergone a scheme of updating and extending yet retaining period features in every room.

- Elegant Reception Hall, Sitting Room
- Lounge, Inner Hallway, Cellar
- Kitchen, Dining Room, Utility Room
- Shower Room, Three Double Beds, Bathroom
- Gardens, Parking, Garage
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry

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Halls



Eunant, Lake Vyrnwy

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www.eunant.co.uk/house.pdf

- 7 Bedrooms
- 4 Reception Rooms
- 4 Bathrooms / Shower Rooms
- 2 Detached Barns With Planning Permission
- Lovely Rural Setting Overlooking Lake Vyrnwy
- Grounds Extending To Approx. 1.5 Acres
- Current EPC Rating F

Price: £500,000
Contact Oswestry



Rhydygaled, Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant

This Equestrian property can only be described overall as a 'Rural Idyll' situated in picturesque countryside with an abundance of bridle ways within close proximity.

- 3 Bed Detached Character Cottage
- 3 Reception Room
- Heated Swimming Pool
- Detached Stable Block
- 6 Acres Of Pasture Land
- Current EPC Rating F

Price: £460,000
Contact Oswestry



The Gables, Dovaston

This individual FIVE bedroom executive detached family home is situated in a semi rural location within a popular hamlet.

- 5 Bedroom (2 With En-Suites)
- 2 Receptions & Conservatory
- Double Garage & Parking
- Open Countryside Views
- Oil Central Heating
- Current EPC Rating D

Price: £375,000
Contact Oswestry



A most well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a cul-de-sac position in the popular village of Gobowen.

- 3 Bedroom (Master En-Suite)
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking For 3 Vehicles
- Current EPC Rating C

Trinity Close, Gobowen

Price: £149,950

Contact Oswestry



This delightful detached country cottage is situated in a picturesque edge of village location.

- 2 Bedroom Cottage
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating F

Rose Cottage, Llanfechain

Price: £185,000

Contact Oswestry



This semi detached rural home is situated in a most peaceful location down a quiet country lane.

- 3 Bedroom
- Countryside Views
- Cottage Gardens
- Dating Back to 1900s
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating E

Elbridge, Ruyton XI Towns

Price: £169,950

Contact Oswestry



Dating back to 1899, this is a most unique and versatile property standing in extensive grounds of just under half an acre.

- 3/4 Bedroom
- 3 Attic Rooms
- 3 Receptions & Conservatory
- Attractive Gardens
- Outside Stores & Ample Parking
- Current EPC Rating E

South Lodge, Park Hall

Price: £375,000

Contact Oswestry



An executive five bedroom detached family home situated in a cul-de-sac position in this popular village enjoying countryside views to the rear elevation.

- 5 Bedroom (2 With En-Suites)
- 2 Receptions & Conservatory
- Double Garage & Parking
- Oil Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Current EPC Rating C

Parc Bronhyddon, Llansantffraid

Price: £350,000

Contact Oswestry



A three bedroom detached dormer bungalow situated in a popular village location.

- 3 Bed Detached Dormer Bungalow
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Oil Central Heating
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Current EPC Rating E

Maes Y Foel, Llansantffraid

Price: £175,000

Contact Oswestry



Tynycelyn, Cefn Canol

This four bedroom detached family home is situated in a pleasant rural location only a 10 minute drive from Oswestry Town.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Stands In 1.6 Acres
- Superb Open Countryside Views
- Oil Central Heating
- Ample Parking
- Current EPC Rating E

Price: £450,000
Contact Oswestry



Golden Grove, Treflach

A fine example of a detached country residence situated in a most sought after rural location with stunning open uninterrupted countryside views to all elevations. This property would be ideal for those who would like a country way of life yet within easy reach of excellent commuter links.

- 4 Double Bedrooms
- 4 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Ample Parking
- Mature South Facing Gardens

Price: £425,000
Contact Oswestry



Winch House, Pant

This attractive and unique detached family home offers spacious and adaptable accommodation with superb views across the Shropshire Plain and to the Breidden Hills.

- Located On A Quiet No Through Lane
- 3 Receptions & Conservatory
- 3 Double Bedrooms (Master & En-Suite)
- Double Garage & Ample Parking
- Landscaped Gardens
- Current EPC Rating D

Price: £375,000
Contact Oswestry

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01691 652367**35 Bailey Street, Oswestry****Ellesmere 01691 622534**
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Wrexham 01978 340000**Hampton Road Oswestry £445,000****NEW**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a spacious Detached Family Residence situated in a one of Oswestry's premier residential locations and within easy walking distance of the town
- The property has been finished to the highest of standards
- Entrance Hall, Study, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Garden Room, Utility Room & Cloak Room
- 4 Ensuite Bedrooms with 2 other Bedrooms served by a Family Bathroom. A large Attic space offers a host of future uses
- The property stands in well stocked landscaped gardens with a raised patio providing an ideal outdoor entertainment area. To the fore is a Garage with tarmac driveway providing ample off road parking

Gyrn Road Selatyn £209,995**NEW - NO CHAIN**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a recently completed 4 bedroom family home in the popular village of Selatyn
- The property is situated in an elevated position overlooking the historic Church and the open countryside beyond
- Ent Hall, Ground Floor Shower Room, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Rm, Utility, Master Bedroom (en-suite) & 3 further Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom
- Externally the property has private, low maintenance gardens & off road parking
- uPVC double glazing and oil fired central heating throughout. EPC Rating B

Morda Close Oswestry £375,000**NEW**

- A spacious family home situated in the established residential area of Morda Close
- Dining Room is adjoined by Kitchen, Pantry, Utility & Shower Rm
- Rear Entrance Hall provides access to the gardens and a Garden Room
- Completing the Ground floor are 3 Double Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom
- Spacious Lounge having large windows overlooking the gardens, a covered balcony
- An 'L' shaped room currently used as a Study/Bedroom with a host of storage space
- Landscaped gardens with a host of mature shrubs and trees providing ample privacy. Gas C/H, EPC Rating D

**NEW - NO CHAIN****Victoria Street Oswestry £145,000**

- A spacious and well located Detached 3 Bedroom property believed to date from the early 1900's and situated in a prime location convenient to the town centre of Oswestry
- The property requires some modernisation works but benefits from a host of original features.
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Excellent Bedrooms, Ground Floor Family Bathroom
- Garden to the rear, Gas C/H, part uPVC double glazing and single garage and driveway. EPC Rating

**NEW - NO CHAIN****Berwyn Drive St. Martins £184,995**

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow located close to the centre of the village of St Martins
- Within a generous plot with well maintained gardens and views towards the fore
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Large Lounge, 3 Double Bedrooms and Bathrm
- Externally the property benefits from a good sized gardens, garaging and off-road parking
- Gas C/H and part secondary glazing. EPC Rating E

**NEW****Bryn Y Castell Gobowen £249,995**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a spacious Detached Family Home
- The property was constructed in 2009 to the highest standards.
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility
- Integral Garage, Master Bedroom (en-suite), 3 further Bedrooms & Family Bathroom.
- The large rear garden has been extensively landscaped whilst there is a smaller garden & driveway to the front. D/G. Gas C/H. EPC Rating C

**Donnett Mews Whittington £149,995**

- A well appointed Barn Conversion situated close to the centre of the village of Whittington. Converted approximately 13 years ago
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Two Bedrooms & Bathrm
- Good size rear garden which is in direct sunlight for most of the day
- The garden is mainly laid to patio and gravel for ease of maintenance
- The property benefits from ample off-road parking, D/G. Gas C/H. EPC Rating D

**Boot Street Whittington £315,000**

- A deceptively spacious Detached Bungalow which has been extended and finished to high standards within large well stocked gardens in a private location yet close to the centre of the picturesque village of Whittington
- Open plan Lounge/Dining Rm, adjoining Study, well fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility
- 3 Double Bedrooms (2 En-Suite) an additional Shower Rm
- Patio and seating veranda to the front of the property, off road parking
- Hardwood D/G, recently fitted Gas C/H system. EPC Rating D

**Perry Road Gobowen £214,995**

- A deceptively spacious 4 bedroom Detached Property situated within walking distance of the centre of the popular village of Gobowen.
- The property has been extensively modernised to the highest of standards and contains a number of excellent features.
- Lounge with multi-fuel burner, large Kitchen/Dining Room with adjoining Pantry, 4 Bedrooms (master en-suite) and Family Bathroom.
- The property has a large corner plot with raised patio, vegetable plot & integral garage.
- The property also benefits from uPVC D/G and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D

**NO CHAIN****Coed-Y-Go Oswestry £250,000**

- A most delightfully position Detached Residential Bungalow in need of modernisation, set within large gardens and grounds just on the edge of Morda towards Coed-y-Go being only one mile from Oswestry.
- The generous property includes which requires some modernisation, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Sun Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby/Utility together with Three Bedrooms and Shower Room.
- Oil fired Central Heating, garage, a Triple Loose Box with adjoining Garage, Small Paddock. Views over open fields to the rear. EPC Rating F

**Hengoed Nr Oswestry £435,000**

- A beautifully presented & luxuriously appointed barn conversion with landscaped gardens
- Farmhouse Kitchen with Oil Fired Aga range, adjoining Dining Rm & Utility
- Drawing Rm has glazed panels to 1 elevation with views & smaller Living Rm
- Master Bedroom, En-suite & Guest Bedrm, 3 Beds & Family Bathrm
- Large well stocked garden to front, large parking area & Dble Garage Block
- Enclosed Patio area with views across open countryside. EPC Rating F

**NEW PRICE - NO CHAIN****Weston Nr Oswestry £395,000**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a Grade II Listed Mill which has been sympathetically converted to create a spacious home. The property has excellent views over its own Mill Pond and countryside beyond
- Through careful design and craftsmanship the current owners have created spacious and modern living accommodation which preserves the character of this iconic building and retains a host of original features including a working water wheel and some of the original workings
- The property has picturesque gardens set around the extensive Mill Pond which provides an idyllic backdrop for this stunning property

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TIPS OF THE WEEK

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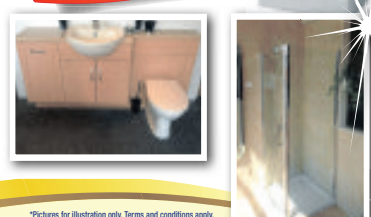
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deaths

JONES Les

Passed away on July 8, 2013, at Meadowbrook Care Home, Gobowen, aged 75 years.

Beloved Husband of the late Beryl, much loved Dad of Lesley, Father-in-law of Phil and loving Grandad of Harry.

Funeral Service at All Saints Parish Church, Trefonen on Monday, July 22, at 11am, followed by Interment at Trefonen Cemetery.

Family flowers only.

Donations if desired to Meadowbrook Residents Fund.

Inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

Oswestry.

Telephone 01691 653116.

PARRISH David Arthur

Passed away peacefully in hospital on July 12, 2013, aged 83 years.

Much loved Husband of Rachel and a dear Uncle of Alastair and Elizabeth.

Funeral arrangements to be announced later.

Inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

Oswestry.

Telephone 01691 653116.

RIDGE John Alan

Passed away peacefully on June 23, 2013, aged 82 years.

Much loved Husband of the late June, loving Dad of Julie and Stephen, Dad-in-law of Kevin and Loli, dear Grandad and Gan Gan of Gareth, Jemma and Darren, Victoria and Dave, Georgie, Connor and Keiron, Great-Grandad of Elisha, Katelyn and Sophie and Brother to Rose.

Funeral Service at St Philip and St James Parish Church, Morton on Friday, July 19, at 10.30am, followed by Cremation at Pentrebychan Crematorium, Wrexham, at 12 noon.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Research UK (Oswestry Branch) and Macmillan Nurses Fund.

Inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

Oswestry.

Telephone 01691 653116.

HAMER

Joyce

On July 4, 2013, aged 97 years.

Much loved Mother of Judith. She will be sadly missed by so many Family and Friends.

Funeral Service at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday, July 24, at 4pm.

Black neck not be worn.

No flowers by request.

Donations, if desired, to The Stroke Association.

Inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

Oswestry.

Telephone 01691 653116.

HILLIDGE

Mary nee Fitzgerald

Passed away peacefully at home on July 9, 2013, aged 67 years.

Much loved Wife of Edward, loving Mum of Bernadette and a dear Daughter, Sister, Sister-in-law, Auntie, Great-Auntie and Friend.

Funeral arrangements to be announced later.

Inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

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Telephone 01691 653116.

HOLCOMBE

John William (Jack)

Passed away peacefully at the Legrand Nursing Home, Tilstock, on Thursday, July 11, 2013, aged 91 years.

He will be forever missed by his dear Friends Jonathan, Penny and Staff of the Legrand Nursing Home.

Funeral Service at Christ Church, Tilstock, on Thursday, July 25, at 2pm, followed by Interment in the Churchyard.

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FEATURES & NEWS

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Elderly woman trapped in lift

AN elderly woman had to be rescued by firefighters after she became trapped in a lift at Oswestry Library.

The woman, who has not been named, was stuck in the lift at Oswestry for more than 30 minutes.

She had been trying to get down to the ground floor level of the library, which has a split level layout, when it stopped about 18 inches from the bottom.

She pressed the alarm button to alert library staff, and the fire service had to be called out to help her down.

Library manager Teresa Eccleston said: "The lift broke down and she was stuck in it."

"We'd got the engineers coming out, but they were coming from some distance away, with the heat we thought we'd call the fire brigade as they could be here a lot quicker."

"Someone stayed by the lift while we waited to keep her company and to make sure she was alright."

"The engineers arrived a bit later and have been repairing the lift. It was a mechanical failure that caused it to stop."

Firefighters from Oswestry fire station rescued the lady by using a hydraulic lifter to lower the lift to the ground floor.

The woman was unharmed in the incident.

Cancer scare led to woman starting her own business

THREE years ago Cherry Allen knew she wanted to find a new job, but she never dreamed that a cancer diagnosis and a chance phone call to an old friend would provide her with the opportunity to become her own boss.

The 58-year-old is quickly becoming a familiar face at Oswestry's outdoor market, but for many years she worked with children and teenagers with serious problems.

"They were homeless kids with all sorts of problems – alcohol, drugs, abuse – all the problems that come up in the young and homeless," she said.

"We referred them to all the different agencies to try to help them."

"It was a job I really loved and I got so much out of it, but in 2010 I'd made a decision to go more on to the council side of things and there was a position coming up that I was going to go for."

"I decided to have a holiday in June 2010 and in that holiday I was diagnosed with cancer."

"I spent two years getting over that, but by the time I was better, all the agencies I'd been working with before had closed down and the funding had been stopped."

Cherry said she spent some time thinking about what she wanted to do, and was considering going into mediation when she found an old phone book.

"Out of the blue the number of my daughter's godmother, who I hadn't heard from in 10 years, fell out of the phone book," she said.

"I gave her a ring and she said she was doing well with her trade in fair trade clothes."

"She said she'd give me the shop at cost or I could take it over and pay her back in two years once I'd made enough to do that."

I said I'd do a market stall and she said she'd front me some stuff, and it was all

WOMEN OF SUBSTANCE

with Pam Griffin



arranged in a couple of hours over the phone."

Cherry started trading as Fair Enuff on June 1 and is already certain she made the right decision.

She said: "I love it. I like the market. There's no life or death situations and there's always time for a chat."

"The older people like to come and chat, and they're so interesting. Someone came up and knew more about my goods than I did – she was looking at fabrics and could say where they came from and how they were made."

"She said people used to call her Indiana Jones when she was younger because she loved to travel to these far off places."

Cherry will get the chance to travel herself next year to see some of the places where the clothes she stocks are made.

"I'm going to Ecuador in March and hopefully we're going to do South America," she said.

"I need to restock already, the stall's going so well, and I want to see what's out



Cherry Allen setting out her stall. Picture: Laura Duffield.

there and meet the people who are making the things I'm selling."

The stall is now proving so successful that Cherry has also lined up plans for expanding. She is planning to add in some festivals to her schedule next year, and is hoping to

arrange for new stock, including hanging chairs, to be produced to add to her range of products.

Fair Enuff is open at Oswestry outdoor market on Bailey Head on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Spotlight on safety of club's members

MEMBERS of a children's martial arts club in Oswestry welcomed a special guest from South Africa to their meeting.

MD Warriors, which meets at McLaren's in Oswestry, invited Kelee Arrowsmith to run a session on personal safety.

Kelee, a member of MD Warriors South Africa, is on a European tour promoting personal safety.

Her session focused on teaching club members, all aged between three and 16, how to keep themselves safe when they are out alone and with other people.

Gareth Kros, one of club's instructors, said: "The kids thoroughly enjoyed the seminar and gained very important life skills."

"Kelee regularly teaches personal safety throughout her country, which is renowned for its high crime rate. Here in Shropshire and Wales we may not face the same daily dangers as children in South Africa, but with recent events publicised in the media it has become very clear that our children still need to know how to protect themselves should the need arise."

"The skills learnt in the seminar will help students feel more confident and able to keep themselves safe."

Contact Graeme Kros on 07974 274863 or visit www.mdwarriors.co.uk

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BUSINESS

Food festival has grown to be a feast of attractions

AS Oswestry Town Centre continues to buzz in the wake of its seventh Annual Food Festival it is clear to see that as a town, Oswestry certainly knows how to put on a good spread.

The brainchild of local businessman John Waine, Oswestry Food Festival has grown into a veritable feast not just from the vendors who come to show their wares but from the regular businesses that are available in Oswestry throughout the entire year.

On festival weekend cafes, pubs and restaurants have the chance to engage with the extra people visiting, and lingering, in the town centre and local residents have the opportunity to see the town for what it really is, a haven of tucked away treats just waiting to be discovered.

If we open our eyes and ears and explore the town as a whole it soon becomes clear that Oswestry has so much more to offer than much maligned Cross Street and is, given the chance to shine, a place that is warm, welcoming



and waiting to be discovered.

I take my hat off to those who worked so very hard to make the event a success and extend a warm welcome to those who saw it as an opportunity to enjoy Oswestry as it should be enjoyed.

Perhaps we can all carry some of that positive energy through the summer months and use it to make the most of what we already have right on our doorstep.

The next meeting of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce is on Wednesday, August 7, from 6pm to 8pm, in The Wynnstay Hotel. New members are always welcome. For more details please visit www.oswestrychamber.org.uk or call 01691 700800.

Heather Noble
Chairman
Oswestry Chamber of Commerce

Sales growth leads to charity shop stock call

THE largest operator of charity shops in the county says it is breathing new life into empty shops in towns across the county.

Bargain hunters coping with the economic downturn have created a record level of trade in Relate's 11 retail outlets in Shropshire, including Oswestry.

Organisers say they are greatly encouraged by the growing level of custom.

However there is now a call for more volunteers to help staff the stores and for more donated items.

Lin Foley, recently-retired chief executive of Shropshire Relate, and now responsible for the fundraising side of the charity's work said it was the proud boast of relationship organisation Relate that - unlike some others - every pound generated by its clothing, bric-a-brac and furniture donations was retained within the county to meet growing demands on its counselling services.

She said that the progressive policy by the charity involves bringing life back to empty shops within towns, so much so that there is now the need for more volunteers.

Not only that she said but bargain-hunting shoppers had created a record level of trade - leading to an appeal from Relate for more donated items to fill their shelves and storerooms.

The need is particularly acute across north Shropshire, where Relate runs two shops in Ellesmere, two in Wem, and one each in Oswestry and Market Drayton.

by Graham Breeze

"We are busier now than we have ever been. The support of the public is phenomenal. It follows that we need help to assist our shop managers to run the shops efficiently - dealing with customers and assessing where demand is highest, whether it be for clothing, furniture or bric-a-brac."

"The income from our shops is vital in terms of providing counselling for families, couples, individuals and an increasing number of schoolchildren and young people with relationship problems."

In addition to its six shops in north Shropshire Relate runs three in Shrewsbury, one in Wellington and a new store in Harlescott, Shrewsbury.

Anyone interested in assisting at any of the shops can call (01743) 271161.

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Schoolchildren off 'on safari'

CHILDREN from an Oswestry primary school have visited a firm which is transforming the look of a county town through a unique safari trail.

The British Ironwork Centre at Aston, near Oswestry, is currently installing up to 30 sculptures in and around the town in a bid to attract more people to visit.

Children from the town's Woodside Primary School visited the centre to hear more about the unusual project.

The children also had a chance to see some of the sculptures not yet installed in the town and draw them as part of their art studies.

Clive Knowles from the company said he was delighted to welcome 40 children and their teachers and assistants to the firm.

He said: "I must say it has been absolutely lovely to have these youngsters here."

"It is wonderful to be closely involved in the community and see that our safari trail is of interest to the children."

"The children have been doing a project on the trail and we were delighted they wanted to come here and take a look at our work and learn more about



Vince Hunt, Joe Eggle and Tatyana Ivanora from Woodside School, in Oswestry, visited the British Ironwork Centre and its owner Clive Knowles (pictured).
Picture: Laura Outfield.

the project." Mr Knowles said the installation of the sculptures was continuing.

About 17 shops and businesses have small sculptures of animals while five large sculptures have also been installed at various sites in the town including a huge gorilla at the Marches School and giraffes in Cae Glas Park.

The trail has spread further afield with a sculpture of a rhino installed at Derwen College, Gobowen.

Visitors follow the trail by downloading information from the internet.

Mr Knowles revealed further installations would be put in place. Among the new installations would be sculptures of monkeys installed in Oswestry's indoor Powis Hall market.

Criminal defence solicitor returns



Ian Durant

A LEADING criminal defence solicitor advocate has made a welcome return to Oswestry.

With over 20 years' experience, Ian Durant is a member of the county's leading crime department at law firm Lanyon Bowdler.

Mr Durant has a wealth of knowledge and represents clients at magistrates and crown court.

Adrian Roberts, partner and head of the crime team at Lanyon Bowdler, said: "Ian has a formidable reputation and is passionate about criminal defence; he is an asset to the team."

Lanyon Bowdler is one of Shropshire's largest law firms with an office in the heart of Hereford. With 20 partners and in the region of 200 experienced staff, the firm is able to offer legal advice throughout both counties from local offices.

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BUSINESS

Mayor heralds an era of co-operation for town

Advertisement feature

OSWESTRY'S new mayor has heralded a new era of co-operation between the town council and businesses.

Councillor Chris Schofield said the authority would be working closely with businesses in the future when he addressed a meeting of the town's Chamber of Commerce.

He said the council was strongly committed to the town centre and businesses in the town. He announced details of a new funding cashpot to help business.

He spoke of initiatives the town council is championing and, in some cases, funding, including the StartUp Britain tour bus, which will visit Oswestry on July 25, local commissioning of council services and the Oswestry 2020 plan.

At the July meeting of the Chamber he said: "The town council has a strong commitment to the town centre and its businesses."

"What excites me about Oswestry is the number of organisations that have come together to make a difference."

"The Oswestry Chamber of Commerce is a respected voice in the life of the town and an organisation the Town Council wants to do business with."

"We want to see Oswestry Chamber of Commerce as part of the Local Governance Board."

Fiona Barnes from the chamber welcomed the closer working relationship between the group and the council and the comments.

She said: "He gave a ray of hope to Oswestry businesses with news that there is a pot of money of £75,000 in the Town Centre Grant Scheme in place with awards of up to £7,000 available for individual projects."

"Businesses wishing to find out more can get in touch with the town clerk David Preston either at the Guildhall or by e-mailing enquiries@oswestry-tc.gov.uk"

"This is available to anybody living within the old Oswestry borough area."

Stay healthy in the sun



Staff at the Pharmacy @ Caxton in Oswestry.

FAMILIES should make exercising together a priority and healthy eating fun to ensure everyone stays in good health, an Oswestry pharmacist has advised ahead of the summer holidays.

John Gentle, superintendent pharmacist at the Pharmacy @ Caxton in Oswestry, said it was important that children realise the importance of enjoying the outdoors and exercise from an early age.

Mr Gentle said: "More and more children nowadays are overweight and something must be done about it to prevent future health problems."

"It is important that adults and children are encouraged to eat and drink healthily as well as be more active."

Government figures show that nearly a third of children aged between two and 15 years are obese, putting them at risk of conditions, such as diabetes.

And efforts are being made to ensure that the number of overweight children is on the downward trend.

Earlier this year Pharmacy @ Caxton in Oswald Road was one of 250 pharmacies in the country to be named as a Healthy Living Pharmacy.

Mr Gentle added: "It is vital that parents, as well as their children, get active in a bid to have a healthier lifestyle. However, it is also important that families do activities together, such as going for a walk instead of using the car."

Community Champions Forge Alliance with Maesbury metals

Maesbury metals is a local authority workshop based in Oswestry, providing training support & welfare for adults with learning disability's within the community, the workshop produces a wide range of bespoke metal products.

vided by the British Ironwork centre is incredibly generous and we hope to use our skills here at the Maesbury metals workshop to enhance the Oswestry Safari trail."

They have formed a unique alliance with the British Ironwork centre, as Community Champions BIC have pledged support and resources in aiding Maesbury metals to participate in the Oswestry Safari trail.

The Manager Mr Peter Humber bought a large party of service users to BIC to see the centre and the incredible range of decorative metalwork on display.

Many of the members are incredibly passionate about what they do and their involvement with Maesbury metals, Pete Phillips, workshop member said, "Without Maesbury Metals we wouldn't have learnt so much."

Gavin Rhyn, workshop member had added "We make friends not just products".

Mr Pete Humber (Workshop Manager) was quoted as saying, "The support pro-



Mr Clive Knowles Managing Director of BIC said: "This community spirit is growing stronger, the more we all discuss our aims and ambitions. The Centre on Maesbury industrial estate is an enormous credit to the town and county and I feel quite humbled by the work they all do, in helping there workforce become more confident and independent."

Any community groups or organisations wishing to help or support the Oswestry Safari trail or have any other worthwhile community projects needing assistance, BIC are keen to hear from you.

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FARMING

Rule change will help to boost sheep trade sector

THE English sheep sector has received a boost after the European Union voted to change the rules on promotion to allow for the generic promotion of sheep meat.

The National Farmers Union has worked closely with the meat trade industry's Eblex to persuade EU policy makers to change the rules which prevented the European Union co-funding promotional campaigns for "generic" sheep meat products.

Previously, only products that had recognised quality labels, such as PGI or PDO could apply for promotional money.

Powers

NFU livestock board chairman Charles Sercombe, who also chairs the European Commission Advisory Committee on Sheep Meat, said it was a victory for the industry's lobbying efforts in Brussels.

"We have pushed this from every angle to get our message heard, working with Eblex and the EU farmers' organisation Copa to repeatedly push the European Commission to use its powers to bring about the change," said Mr Sercombe.

"The sheep sector has had a torrid time recently with the disastrous winter still very fresh in the mind."

"This change in the rules will allow us to go out and promote the sales of our fantastic product and I know Eblex already has ideas about how we might access money and promote lamb in the UK and across Europe."

Peter Hardwick, Eblex head of trade



The European Union voted to change the rules on promotion to allow for the generic promotion of sheep meat.

Advertisement feature

development, said: "This has been a key priority for some time and we very much welcome this positive move which comes following a great deal of hard work."

The change recognises that sheep farming often takes place in less favoured areas of the EU, including in the UK, and that this sector needs support.

"It is therefore pleasing that there

has finally been some recognition that the sector needs direct, generic promotion to stimulate consumption.

"This is a great opportunity to encourage lamb consumption across Europe."

"Eblex already works closely with the French, Irish and other UK levy boards to promote lamb generically in the French market."

"We will be looking to strengthen this activity by extending it to work in other member states and in the home market."



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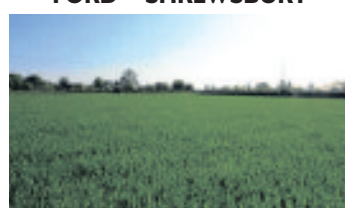


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NOSTALGIA & NEWS

01691 668094

Photos bring back memories

Exhibition honour for young snapper



Oswestry Girl Guides pictured in approximately 1910.

IT'S always great to get feedback on our old pictures, especially when the details about them are only scanty, so thank you to Christopher S. Mills and Mrs Alice Lloyd-Butler for coming back to us with more information on two we have used recently.

Christopher, of Maserfield, Oswestry, got in touch about a photo we used showing Oswestry Girl Guides - which was the extent of what we knew.

"My late mother is in the back row, second from left," he said.

"I remember her talking about her

by Toby Neal

time in the Guides. They all seemed very keen and enjoyed all the activities. She was Edith Barlow and lived at 14 Coney Green, where the Iceland store now stands! The Guide Leader was Miss Edith Wallace Pugh. As the guides in the picture are holding semaphore flags, they must have been practising signalling.

"Anyone who has a copy of 'Oswestry, A Pictorial History', by Bernard Mitchell, turn to page 13, they will see another photograph of Oswestry Girl Guides from around the same time, which was approximately 1910."

Remember the photo we used showing

Oswestry Villa football team? That prompted Mrs Alice Lloyd-Butler to get in touch.

"My husband played for them. He is top, third from the right - Walter Lloyd-Butler. All the lads called him Wally. He played for them for a long, long time.

"I never used to see him a Saturday because he was always playing football. He was a very good player and they used to say he should have gone far, but being in Oswestry, they don't, do they?"

"I met him with a friend at the fair at Oswestry. We married in 1956. He was a bricklayer and a plasterer, and then he was a postman."

Wally eventually had to give up playing.

Readers have also offered some information on this picture of Oswestry Villa Football team.



"He had trouble with his legs. He had to stop." He died two years ago.

Mrs Lloyd-Butler, whose maiden name is Billington and who is 76, does recognise other faces.

Player

"The person on the right hand side at the end of the top row, I know him. He was in the Plymouth Band. I knew the trainer as well. He married Rita Tudor. Her dad was a hairdresser in the town."

And we've also heard from Mr Gareth Davies, of Gobowen, a former Oswestry Villa player who recognised many faces. Mr Davies, who also played for Oswestry Juniors and Llanymynech Juniors, will be 70 in August.

He thinks he can fill in one or two

gaps. Back right, is, he says, Roddy Humphreys.

"I played with him when he played for Chirk."

He names the last player in kit on the front row, far right, as Malcolm Jones, of Weston Rhyn.

"His half brother went away and played for Blackpool, and was centre half for Wales. His name was Glyn James," he said.

Mr Davies also added some interesting sidelights, such as that Ken Byers, the first kitted player on the front row, played professional Rugby League for, he thinks, St Helens, and that Colin Lodwick, the fourth player from left, had trials for Manchester United.

A TEENAGE photographer has seen his work displayed in Azerbaijan after being named one of the top 10 young snappers in the world.

Will Anderson, from Chirk, saw five of his images featured in the exhibition and festival after making it to the finals of the Children's Eyes On Earth International Youth Photography Contest.

The 17-year-old was flown to Azerbaijan alongside young photographers from as far afield as India, Canada, Australia and the Philippines.

"By November I had almost forgotten about the competition because it looked far too good for me and I didn't expect anything from it," he said. "I got home from school and had a quick check of my e-mail only to find a message saying I was one of 50 people shortlisted into the 100 best photographs from over 4,000 entrants in over 90 countries."

"Fast forwarding to the middle of March, the phone rang from Paris saying I'd been invited the Azerbaijan as part of the festival. I thought it was a joke because the judging process had taken so long I thought they must have picked a winner before this." To see more of Will's pictures see on.fb.me/10R0Joz

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Castle is transformed into Salem



The cast of *The Crucible* about to go on stage at Whittington Castle.

THE grounds of Whittington Castle were transformed into the setting of the Salem witch trials for an outdoor production of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.

The castle, near Oswestry, proved the ideal venue for the play, which is recognised as a classic American drama.

North Wales-based community theatre group Mikrokosmos Theatre Company took over the grounds of the castle as they set the stage for the 1953 play, which is set in the Province of Massachusetts Bay during 1692 and 1693.

by Andrew Morris

And the audience was able to enjoy the performance with a picnic under a clear blue sky.

Sue Ellis, spokeswoman for the castle, said the event was a great success and the weather made things even better.

She said: "We had a fantastic time of it at the castle with the production of *The Crucible* and we had about 100 people in attendance on what was a beautiful night."

"The actors have recently won an award for performances at Theatre Clwyd in Mold and you can see why because it was a brilliant performance."

"It was a great spectacle to see so many happy people enjoying themselves with a picnic at the castle on a proper summer evening and earlier in the day we had a couple who had just been married coming in for pictures so it was a great day at Whittington Castle."

Jan Gavin, of Mikrokosmos Theatre Company, said: "We are an ambitious community theatre group in North East Wales. Our mission is to create high-quality dramatic productions normally beyond the reach of the professional theatre."

"The group is also dedicated to presenting classic plays and new writing with the intention of extending the boundaries of theatrical experience."



A large crowd turned up to watch the performance.



Katie Roberts as Susanna Walcott and Adam Davies as Rev Parris.



The play under way.



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FEATURE AND NEWS

01691 668094

Evie's in top role at rotary's new club

THE president of Shropshire's newest Interact Rotary Club has received her chain of office.

Interact is an offshoot of the rotary movement, attracting junior members from 13 to 18-years-old.

The club which was established at Adcote School, launched with the support of Oswestry Borderland Rotary Club.

Evie Ford, Interact president at Adcote School, received her chain of office from Borderland president, Merrick Corfield and headmaster Gary Wright during a ceremony at the school.

Borderland Rotary Club spokesman Geoff Barre said: "Adcote has 23 members from the school and is Borderland Rotary Club's very first Interact Club in its 23-year history."

"Interact clubs are rotary's clubs for youngsters aged 12 to 18, supported by Borderland, but each Interact club is self-governing."

"The goals of Interact include developing leadership skills and personal integrity, demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others, understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work."

Borderland Rotary meets on a Wednesday, at 7.30pm, at the Sweeney Hall Hotel. See www.borderlandrotary.co.uk

Views of Northern Tanzania, the Maasai and Hadza ways of life

WRITING notes for a column in the Oswestry Chronicle whilst standing on the edge of a volcanic crater in East Africa may seem a touch out-of-place.

However as I gazed longingly out over the lands of Northern Tanzania, it is easy and obvious to remember that we all owe our very existence to this region.

For it was here that some of the very earliest evidence for modern humans emerged. I am standing on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. As I look to the West I can pick out Laetoli, the famous site of the fossilised hominid footprints dating from volcanic events around 3.6 million years ago and showing unequivocally that our ancestors walked upright, together.

Just a few hundred meters to the East of that I can pick out Lake Eyasi, one of the most fascinating regions of Africa for anyone interested in the human species. And as I try and take all of this in, my view is temporarily blocked out by a couple of Maasai Herdsmen and their cattle wandering past me.

The Maasai people are seen by many as the ancient custodians of this land and certainly compared to white people, they are. However they did in fact originate from the Nile Valley and only began migrating to their current locations in Kenya and Northern Tanzania in the 17th Century. They have long been a fierce and proud tribe, with their famed practice of killing lions with spears to prove bravery. Now though they have largely adopted a pastoral way of life although the governments of their respective countries have tried to ban this along with other cultural traditions. Currently, big game hunters are trying to force them from their lands. With such change over the decades, elders in this society must surely ruminate on many

ON THE WILD SIDE
with Ben Waddams



contrasting memories. But I will speak more of the Maasai in future columns.

Again I return my gaze to Lake Eyasi, for it is here that one of the last true hunter-gatherer tribes continue to exist. Our guide simply states that they are very poor people, but I sense a very slight twinge of envy in his voice and more than a little respect. He is talking of the Hadza people.

The Hadza reside in an area that even today is not too dissimilar from that in which our ancestors spent the majority of their existence.

Protect

All around them, the Maasai have adopted a more pastoral way of life with their cattle and goats, yet the Hadza remain largely hunter-gatherers. The Maasai don't hunt or eat wild game, however in the wilder regions of their existence they will kill lions, leopards and hyenas in order to protect livestock.

The Hadza do hunt extensively. They spare one creature only; the hyena. And herein lies one of their most intriguing, if a little macabre, characteristics. When a Hadza dies, he or she is taken into the bush and laid to rest in the open. Within 24 hours the carcass is gone; the work of hyenas. To then hunt the living embodiment of a dead ancestor would surely fill anyone with a sense of the sacrilege.

Ben's artwork can be seen in The Boat-house restaurant, Ellesmere.



Maasi Memories - By Ben Waddams

Project to conserve cemetery records

A MAJOR new project to ensure Oswestry cemetery's archives are available to the public to use in future years is about to begin.

Oswestry Town Council will be taking on three temporary members of staff to take the project forward.

The project, which was awarded £60,000 lottery funding earlier this year, will see the team carry out work in recording, cataloguing and conserving the cemetery's archives.

Many of Oswestry's famous sons are buried at the cemetery.

Among them is war hero Squadron Sergeant Major Harold Whitfield. He won the Victoria Cross for bravery during the Great War.

The cemetery also has a war section and the cemetery's archive collections contains information about the graves and exhumations of German pilots who were initially buried at Oswestry and later transferred to the cemetery at Cannock.

New councillor

ALAN Davis has been appointed as the new Oswestry town councillor for Cabin Lane ward. Councillor Davis will fill the vacancy left when George Miah resigned. There was no poll as no other candidate stood for election.

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THE ARTS

01691 668094

Artist Alison to be guest at craft fair in Tasmania

by Graham Breeze

FROM the pavilions of the Chelsea Flower Show to the catwalks of Paris and Toronto, Oswestry artist Alison Holt has seen her work displayed around the world.

And she is now preparing to travel to Australia for the first time where she will be a special guest artist at the country's premier arts and crafts event, the Tasmanian Craft Fair in Deloraine.

Based at her studio in Oakhurst Road, Oswestry, Alison uses embroidery techniques to enhance silk paintings, taking her inspiration from the Shropshire countryside near her home.

In November she will be taking some of her work to Australia after being invited to exhibit in Tasmania.

Interested

She will also be leading some workshops. She said: "I had an email last year from Australia from a lady who had seen books I have written about my techniques.

"This lady said she was a big fan of my work, and had I ever considered teaching in Australia.

"I said I'd love to, but I don't have any contacts to arrange it. She said to leave it with her, and a few days later I had a message back from her to say she'd emailed everyone she knew in the textile guild and other guilds in Tasmania and had had several replies from people who were interested. Then she asked would I be open to exhibiting, so she put me forward as the feature international artist at the craft fair.

"I'm really excited to go because it's lovely



Alison Holt is off to Australia to guest at the Tasmanian Craft Fair.

to go and teach new people, and they're really keen. They sold the first two courses I arranged and then asked if I could fit in some more while I'm over there, so I'll be teaching five courses now."

Before heading out to Australia, Alison will be leading a public workshop at her studio on September 2-4.

For further information visit www.alisonholt.com



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GIG GUIDE

Folk star sister act due to return to Ironworks

GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts

FOLK duo Larkin Poe are ready to wow music fans once again as they make their triumphant return to the Ironworks on Wednesday.

Since selling out the venue almost a year ago, the band have gone from strength to strength, releasing their first full length album "The Sound of the Ocean" in March.

Hailing from Atlanta, Georgia, the band is made up of sisters Rebecca and Megan Lovell.

The pair were originally part of a bluegrass trio with their elder sister Jessica called "The Lovell Sisters."

Before releasing their first album, the duo gained the attention of music critics with a number of EPs which led to extensive tours across the America and Europe.

One of the high points was when they were chosen to act as the touring band for Elvis Costello in 2011.

Both extremely talented musicians, they play foot-tapping folk rock with a healthy dollop of blues thrown in for good measure.

The gig will act as a warm-up before they head off to the Cambridge Folk Festival.

This a show you don't want to miss and the Ironworks is sure to be packed once again. Tickets for the gig are £8 in advance and £12 on the door, with the show starting at 7.30pm.

Kicking off the week will be the



Larkin Poe will be on stage in Oswestry.

weird and wonderful Dark Patrick, who will be performing at the Ironworks tonight (Thursday).

If you haven't heard Dark Patrick before, there's nothing quite like them, combining electronica, folk and traditional medieval music to make something wholly unique.

Made up of Eva Purupovska and Paul Chilton, the pair utilise all sorts of unusual instruments to create their haunting soundscapes.

There will also be support from Oswestry's Neil Phillips and folk trio Les Glaneurs. The gig starts at 8pm with tickets costing £5 in advance and £7 on the door.

Canadian singer-songwriter Leeroy Stagger will be performing at the Ironworks on Saturday night.

The show is part of his current tour the UK with his four piece band to promote his new album "Truth Be Sold".

He's probably best known for his song "Just in Case" with Danny Michel, which was featured on TV show Grey's Anatomy. The gig starts at 9pm with tickets costing £7.

Fight the Bear frontman John Keeley will be performing a solo set at the Royal Oak, Welshpool, on Friday night. The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry.

String Thing will be at the Lowfield Inn, Marton, on Friday night. The gig starts at 8pm and is free.

On Saturday Rocco Events will be holding a 1940s Swing night at The Ironworks, featuring music by local band The Chicago Swing Katz. Tickets to the event are £6 it starts at 8pm.

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MARKETS

01691 668094

Welshpool livestock market**Welshpool Livestock Sales July 15****OTMS (45)**

AN entry of 45 Over Thirty Month Old Cattle sold to an average of 146.46ppkg for the older cows, 158.48ppkg for the heifers and 151.87 ppkg for the steers under 48 months.

A Limousin cow weighing 854 kg made a top price of £1485.96 from CV and EM Lewis, Buttington New Hall, and therefore receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price older cow sold on the day.

Another Limousin cow weighing 699kg made £1209.27 from RE and L Jones, Farchwell. An under 72 months old Blonde D'Aquitaine cow from FJ Owens and Son, Llettygyn-fach weighing 674kg made £1132.32.

A Limousin heifer under 48 months from G and H Jerman, Tynyrwrta weighing 596kg made £1013.20, a Limousin steer under 48 months from JM Bowen, The Garth weighing 676kg made £1068.08.

Should you require any further information regarding this section please contact the market on 01938 553438 or the Auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999.

FAT CATTLE (7)

A good entry of 7 fat cattle sold to an average of 249.23 ppkg. G Bound & Son, Cefn Bach presented two fat British Blue heifers achieving 266 ppkg for 502kg and also for 552kg.

A Limousin steer from the same vendor realised 264 ppkg for 576 kg. DC Jones and Son, Ty Hir sold a Limousin steer weighing 742 kg for 208 ppkg.

G Bound and Son receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price per kilo animal sold on the day. Weekly sale of Fat cattle every Monday at approximately 12.30pm.

More Fat Cattle urgently required to meet a very strong demand from potential purchasers.

If you require any advice or wish to sell fat cattle at the market please contact the auctioneer Mr Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999 or the market office on 01938 553438.

PRIME HOGGETS (78)

An entry of 78 Prime Hoggets, sold to an overall average of 153.46 ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (11) to 150 ppkg from DA Davies, Penybanc. Average of 131.41 ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (29) to 163 ppkg from RF Wilde and Sons, White Abbey. Average of 160.23 ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (1) to 146.46 ppkg from RF Wilde and Sons, White Abbey.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (5) to 155 ppkg from TE Madeley, Cwmgringlyn. Average of 154.88 ppkg.

PRIME LAMBS (5645)

An entry of 5645 Prime lambs, sold to an overall average of 210.73 ppkg.

Super Lights (17.5kg to 25kg) (32) to 213 ppkg from DH Owen, Crugyn Dimai. Average of 212.77

ppkg. Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (614) to 211 ppkg from D H Owen, Crugyn Dimai. Others to 210 ppkg from CP and VM Andrew and Son, Bronfnewd. Average of 196.79 ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (1903) to 233 ppkg from DD and MJ Evans, Pantwynthrew.

Others to 223 ppkg from Messrs BE and BE Langford, Llettymeibion. Average of 205 ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (2894) to 233 ppkg from CD Jones, Bedol. Others to 231 ppkg from DP Casewell, Tanrhiw. Average of 215.91 ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (197) to 227 ppkg from FV Humphreys and Sons, Brook House and DE and KB Owen and Son, Rhallt Isaf.

Others to 227 ppkg from T Williams and Sons, Ty Mawr. Average of 216.06 ppkg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (11) to 214 ppkg from T Williams and Sons, Ty Mawr.

Others to 203 ppkg from RE and EJ Rowlands, Tycam. Average of 213.25 ppkg.

CULL EWE (2832)

An entry of 2832 cull ewes with an increased trade achieving an average of £46 for the ewes and £57.60 for the rams. Ewes topped the sale at £97.50 per head from JE Powell, Cil Pentre, others to £90 from GL, JS and A Howells, Shadog Farm.

Rams topped at £75 per head from DA and SJ Jones, Dyffryn, others to £70 from MW and J Jones, Rhosllwyn.

Weekly sale of cull sheep to immediately follow the

sale of prime lambs at approx 12 noon.

DAIRY COWS

A catalogue entry of 17 Dairy cattle seen an average of £1646.36 for heifers and £1528.33 for cows.

A 2010 born Holstein Friesian Heifer, giving 25 litres, topped the sale at £1970.

A Pedigree Holstein Friesian Heifer from PA and JM Astley, Cefn Farm, giving 33 litres, made £1950. Two third Calving Pedigree Friesian Cows, both yielding 45 litres, made £1920 and £1640 from JR Wilkinson, Dyffryn Farm.

Next sale of Dairy cows will take place on Monday, July 29.

FORTHCOMING SALES:

Monday 22nd July, Cows and Calves.

Monday 29th July, Store Cattle and Dairy Cows.

Monday 5th August, Cows and Calves.

Monday 12th August, Dairy Cows.

Monday 19th August, Cows and Calves and Store Cattle.

Friday 23rd August, Welsh Premier Texel Show.

Saturday 24th August, Welsh Premier Texel Sale.

Monday 26th August, Dairy Cows.

Monday 2nd September, Organic & Conventional Store Cattle and Weanlings and Cows and Calves.

Wednesday 4th September, Welsh Premier Beltex Show and Sale.

Saturday 7th September, Machinery Sale.

Monday 9th September, Dairy Cows.

Wednesday 11th September, Welsh Mule Ewe

Sale. Thursday 12th September, Welsh Mule Ewe Lamb Sale.

Monday 16th September, Store Cattle and Cows and Calves.

Thursday 19th September, Cann Office Sheep Sale.

Saturday 21st September, Welsh Hill Speckled Face Rams.

Monday 23rd September, Dairy Cows.

Saturday 28th September, Yearling Ewes, Lleyn Sheep Society Sale, Southdown Sheep Society Sale, Oxford Down Sheep Breeders Sale and Native Breeds Sheep Sale.

Oswestry cattle auctions**OSWESTRY CATTLE AUCTIONS****July 10.****FAT CATTLE: (68)**

If you have cattle to sell please contact the Auctioneer Jonathan Evans on 07971 002650 or the Market office.

Young Bulls (37) Overall Average 190p.

Light Bulls (3) average 164p (£737/head) selling to 168p from J Edwards

Mount Farm

Medium Bulls (25) average 187p (£963/head) selling to 261p from J W Jones & Partners Pantglas Isa

Heavy Bulls (9) average 205p (£1260/head) selling to 239p from S Hudson

Wood Farm

Steers (7) Overall Average 187.5p.

Heavy Steers (7) average 187.5p (£1199/head) selling to 217p from A & J

Powell Broniarth Hall. Heifers (24) Overall Average 198.5p.

Light Heifers (1) Selling to 160p (£632/head) from J Morris & Sons Caedwys Farm

Medium Heifers (6) Average 188.5p (£873/head) Selling to 204p from J Morris & Sons Caedwys Farm

Heavy Heifers (17) Average 203p (£1084/head) Selling to 266p from W Hughes & Son Waen Farm

Thank you for your continued support.

FAT LAMBS: (2719)

An excellent show of 2719 lambs compared with 2400 12 months ago.

The average was 225p/kg a fantastic increase of 32p/kg on 2012. 403 light lambs averaged 222.5p/kg and peaked at 234p/kg from D G Jones & Partners Cefnhr Fawr.

The 1180 standard lambs levelled at 223p/kg with the top call being 238p/kg from H G Jones Brynymapsis with 37kg lambs making £88.

The 1032 medium lambs averaged 228p/kg with the top call of 265p/kg from W G & S P Foulkes Selattyn Lodge with 39.5kg making £104.50.

The Foulkes Family also topped the heavies at 260p/kg with 48kg lambs making £125 a head this section averaged 236p/kg.

Lights to 234p average 222.5p, Standards to 238p average 223p, Mediums to 265p average 228p, Heavies to 260p average 236p. Others to 219p. Overall average 225p.

British Blue Bulls to £298 & £290 from Messrs Jones Bank Farm £260 from Messrs Jones Middle Farm £254 from Messrs Evans Trawscoed.

British Blue Heifers to £292 from Messrs Jones Bank Farm £285 from Messrs Vaughan Maesmochnant £265 & £242 from Messrs Ellis Pentre Wern.

Limousin Heifers to £342 from Messrs Roberts Rhydy Cil.

Blonde D'Aquitaine Bulls to £225 from Messrs Edwards Plasynoed.

Friesian Bulls to £120 & £105 from Messrs Roberts Far Helder £88 from Messrs Mottram Sodlyll Old Hall.

Weanlings: Aberdeen Angus Heifers to £435 Limousin Heifers to £430 Hereford Heifers to £310 from Messrs Foulkes Tanyffordd

FAT EWES: (597)
A reduced entry on a

good harvesting day but those forward were rewarded with a much sharper trade.

This coupled with more meaty ewes on show achieved an overall average of £54 and a top price of £95 from P & G Jones, Llansantffraid.

Please Note : All sheep entering the market must be tagged.

CALVES: (74)

More numbers forward on a very hot day but buyers none too plenty with demand quite significantly less for all classes.

Nonetheless Limousin Bulls topping at £385 from Messrs Owen Bonciau £288 from Messrs Evans Ferge Farm £270 from Messrs Edwards Lower Sweeney.

British Blue Bulls to £298 & £290 from Messrs Jones Bank Farm £260 from Messrs Jones Middle Farm £254 from Messrs Evans Trawscoed.

British Blue Heifers to £292 from Messrs Jones Bank Farm £285 from Messrs Vaughan Maesmochnant £265 & £242 from Messrs Ellis Pentre Wern.

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Weanlings: Aberdeen Angus Heifers to £435 Limousin Heifers to £430 Hereford Heifers to £310 from Messrs Foulkes Tanyffordd

British Blue to 159p Friesian to 146p Ayrshire Bull to 96p And dolly at the bottom at 70p.

All in all an overall average of 140p/kg or £850 with a top lump of £1223.20 from Mark Jones.

If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details please could you notify the market office 01691 653547 so our database can be updated many thanks.

STORE CATTLE: (33)

A strong trade for the entry forward reached a top price of £1180 (219p/kg) for a British Blue x heifer aged 25 months sold by J H Williams, Llansilin who also sold other British Blue heifers for £1065 (231p/kg), £1040 (221p/kg) £1000 (222p/kg) & £990 (211p/kg).

Other notable prices included:

P J & H W Manford, St Martins sold Charolais x steers aged 16-17 months for £1060 (236p/kg) & £980 (236p/kg) and a bunch of 5 aged 10-15 months for £855 (225p/kg).

T Hughes, Pontfadog sold 2 Limousin x steers aged 14 & 15 months for £940 (235p/kg) & £1055 (215p/kg).

Entries are invited for the next catalogued sale to be held on July 31.

U72 & CULL COWS: (28)

A harvest entry of 28 OTM cattle met with a cracker of a trade as of recent.

Charolais to 162p Limousin to 186p Blonde D'Aquitaine to 176p

British Blue to 159p Friesian to 146p Ayrshire Bull to 96p And dolly at the bottom at 70p.

All in all an overall average of 140p/kg or £850 with a top lump of £1223.20 from Mark Jones.

If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details please could you notify the market office 01691 653547 so our database can be updated many thanks.

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Motoring

Peugeot have got it so right with this new 2008 Crossover

Drive time with Graham Breeze



CAR manufacturers seem to be going to great lengths to find any outrageous gimmick to promote new vehicles but it was still a shock when Peugeot asked me to test the new 2008 Crossover on a ski slope.

The chances of any road vehicle mastering such treacherous conditions looked pretty remote but I hadn't accounted for Peugeot's new "grip control" system which transformed the 2008 at the click of a switch.

The new system optimises traction in poor grip conditions and puts this crossover into a different league when combined with the 165mm ground clearance and advanced traction control.

The system works because grip control transfers torque to the tyre with the most grip in a scrabbling manner allowing the 2008 to even negotiate a ski slope. It comes as standard with Allure and Feline trims, or is a £300 extra on lower-spec models.

The 2008 is a real money saving alternative for those seeking the assurance of four wheel drive performance.

The SUV crossover currently occupies less than seven per cent of the European B-segment but this is just the type of vehicle to see sales spiral upwards. The challenge to all producers



The 2008 Crossover in action at the Tamworth Snowdome

in this sector is to provide something distinctive and Peugeot have got things just right. Not only does the 2008 have the cutting edge with the new "grip" system but it also has winning looks too.

Sculptured wings and sides are noticeable as is the generous use of glass. There's great all-round vision and the panoramic sunroof is an eye catching addition.

Inside Peugeot has developed a new look too with the fascia capping covered in a silky material and a brilliant aircraft style handbrake situated close to the easy-to-handle grip control system. The 2008 shares 67 per cent of its underbody with the 208 hatchback but has

longer body overhangs. It's 200mm longer, 96mm taller and 25mm as well as 162mm more ground clearance.

If you are a driver needing lots of rear room then the 2008 should be on your radar. While the rear seating isn't the most comfortable in the sector everything folds completely flat to offer 1,194 litres of space.

All versions get ESP as well as anti-skid, stability control, emergency braking and electronic brakeforce distribution. All round air bags are standard. There are four badge levels, Access, Active, Allure and Feline, a choice of eight colours and a comprehensive range of petrol, diesel and e-HDI engines.



The plush interior of the new 2008 Crossover with a good screen

I drove the full range and was most impressed by the 1.6e-HDI 115 Feline which had a top speed of 117mph and 0-62mph in 10.4 seconds and a stop-start system.

Emissions are impressive at just 106g/km and there are remarkable fuel consumption figures of 70.6mpg on the combined cycle.

Many models in the B-sector demonstrate a lot of body roll on the open road and the Peugeot is no exception but things weren't as bad as expected. For a crossover the 2008 was actually fun to drive with a comfortable driving position and plenty of steering wheel height and reach adjustment.

For those needing the security of being able



The sleek lines of the 2008 Crossover

Bumper to bumper

Peugeot 2008 Feline

Model: 1.6e-HDI 115
Cost: £19,790
Top speed: 117mph
0-62mph: 10.4secs
Combined fuel: 70.6mpg
CO2 emissions: 106g/km

to cope with the snow or tricky conditions without the cost of four wheel drive this Peugeot may be the answer.

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Smashing up cars, jumping off buildings, scrapping and brawling.... Sounds exciting, doesn't it? No wonder so many kids like the idea of doing it for a living.

As you get older, though, the idea of being a stuntman doesn't appeal as much. Practicality takes over. 'What if someone gets hurt?', you think – and 'what a waste of a perfectly usable car'.

But it's definitely fun to try out for a day, as I found out at the Mercedes driving facility at Millbrook.

In fact, it's about the most fun you can have fully clothed – plus, it's controlled, safe and fully insured. I've been invited here to meet something of a legend in the stunt business, Larry Rippenkroeger, who's been Bruce Willis's stunt double for the best part of 10 years, including in the recent fifth instalment *A Good Day To Die Hard*.

Willis is back as grumpy cop John McClane and this time, he and his son get mixed up with Russian gangsters.

The original *Die Hard*, released in 1988, featured half a Los Angeles skyscraper being blown up by McClane, so producers have had to up the stakes in the stunt department for each sequel.

But since the *Bourne* trilogy came along and changed everything, film-makers have increasingly gone for realism.

Cinema audiences aren't just interested in seeing things get blown up, they want to see the whites of actors' eyes.

They want actual crashes, not computer-generated graphics, and most of all, they want to be close up, as if they're alongside the actor in the cockpit of the car, plane, helicopter, you name it.

But how? You can't just put an A-lister in a deathly situation.

Tough as Willis's reputation is, it's unlikely he'd be up for some of the things in this new *Die Hard* film, and even if he was, no studio in the world would let him have a go.

Kids of all ages dream of being a stunt driver, but self-confessed boy racer Andy Welch made it a reality

Much better to let someone like former jet-ski world champion Rippenkroeger do it.

If needed on screen, he'll (pretend to) get beaten up, jump around or take a bullet for Willis, while any mad driving stunts beyond the skills of or too dangerous for the film's star, Rippenkroeger, a demon behind the wheel, will fill in.

Of all the driving stunts in the latest *Die Hard* film, he reckons the 360-degree spin in the Mercedes Unimog was the most challenging.

A Unimog's a large four-wheel-drive truck, or, in simpler terms, a vehicle not designed to spin around on a busy street.

Roofs

Second to that was the so-called 'step ladder scene', in which McClane drives along the roofs of hundreds of cars in order to get where he needs to be.

"Driving over the traffic was so demanding, because I had to go fast enough to make it look good and be exciting, but I was on the ragged edge of control," says Rippenkroeger.

"All the different heights of cars I was driving over made it so difficult to steer and I was worried about driving off the top of the trucks."

To get a taste of how difficult it might be, a special off-road track has been set up for me to have a go.

There are dips, puddles and bumps to warm things up. Child's play when you're driving a Mercedes G-Class SUV.

What's a bit more difficult is driving down a virtually sheer drop without slipping or sliding off to the side.

Going back up isn't any less taxing, while the instructor saying, "You need to hit the bottom of the ramp much faster" goes against every rational thought in your head.

There's gathering a bit of momentum, and then there's what seems like craziness.

Anyway, a few laps of that and I reckon I would give John McClane a run for his money driving off-road.

Next up is the skid pan, and a chance to recreate the 360-degree spin Rippenkroeger mastered.

I'm in a S65 AMG sedan, so it's a bit lighter on its feet than the Unimog.

Plus I'm driving around a silicon-coated, soaking wet circular track designed for spinning around on, not in the middle of a Moscow street, as in the film.

Nevertheless, I have a go, and manage it. First time. And the second. And the third. It's pretty easy, to be honest.

Deliberately spinning a car doesn't feature in the Highway Code, but still, it's amazing fun.

Finally, and most excitingly, it's time for the pod.

They've been used by stunt drivers for some time, and the same person that installed this one did the same on James Bond's most-recent adventure *Skyfall*, and car-crash spectacular *Fast & Furious 6*. The pod moves all of the driving controls onto the roof.

You drive it like you normally would, you're just on the car rather than in it.

The idea is while the stunt driver struts their stuff, the actor inside looks like they're doing all the hard work – remember what we said about viewers wanting realism? – and the cameras can move around inside, uninhibited.

Sitting on top of a car to drive it is an odd experience, but after a couple of laps of Millbrook, I get the hang of it.

Sitting inside as a passenger while a real stunt driver hammers around the track shows just what the set-up is capable of though.

Perhaps it's best left to the professionals after all.

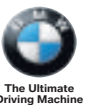


A stunt scene from the latest *Die Hard* film using stunt driver Jim Rippenkroeger



Finding out how the stunts are carried out at the Mercedes facility at Millbrook

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10 2010	Astra 5Dr 1.4i VVT 100ps SRI Technical Grey 13584 miles.....	£8799	10 2010	Zafira Exclusiv 1.8 Silver 36403 miles.....	£7795
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11 2011	Astra Sri 2.0 Cdti S/S 5dr White 10240 miles.....	£12292	07 2007	Zafira Design 1.9 Cdti 120 Black 64000 miles.....	£5995
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59 2009	Astra Sri Xp 1.8 5dr Red 19985 miles.....	£6792	NON VAUXHALL		
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60 2010	Astra 5Dr 1.6i VVT Exclusiv Silver 21000 miles.....	£8492	10 2010	Audi A3 Sport 138 Tdi 3dr Grey 12255 miles.....	£13499
10 2010	Astra 5Dr 1.6i VVT Exclusiv Silver 17634 miles.....	£8695	58 2009	Audi A3 S Line Sp Edtn Tdi 138 Black 43687 miles.....	£13000
59 2009	Astra Design 1.7 Cdti Estate Technical Grey 31500 miles.....	£8791	59 2009	Ford C-Max Zetec Td 115 Grey 31000 miles.....	£9450
11 2011	Corsa Excite 1.2 16v 5Dr Red 21163 miles.....	£7995	11 2011	Ford Fiesta Titanium 1.4 5Dr Silver 9000 miles.....	£9895
10 2010	Corsa Energy 1.3 Cdti 73 Effex 5Dr Red 25843 miles.....	£7995	11 2011	Ford Ka Grand Prix Red 30700 miles.....	£7000
12 2012	Corsa SE 1.4 16v 5Dr 100ps Technical Grey 17997 miles.....	£8995	08 2008	Ford Kuga Titanium 2.0 TDCi Est Silver 35011 miles.....	£12995
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03	Corsa Active 1.0 ac Ecoflex, Flame Red, 31885 Miles.....	£6995	60 2010	Ford Tran Conn 90 T230 Trend Blue 34076 miles.....	£9000
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12 2012	Corsa SXi 1.4 16v 5DR A/C Sovereign Silver 13958 miles.....	£7995	10 2010	Mercedes-Benz C180 K Blueef-Ncy Exec Se 4dr Black 21511 miles.....	£12650
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61 2011	Corsa Excite 1.2 Ac 5dr White 4197 miles.....	POA	58 2009	Nissan Qashqai Acenta 2.0 5Dr Blue 38583 miles.....	£9995
61 2012	Corsa 3Dr HAT 1.3Cdti 75ps S Ecoflex Sovereign Silver 16240 miles.....	POA	11 2011	Peugeot 107 Urban 3dr Red 33000 miles.....	£5500
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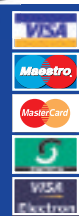
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SPORT



Baschurch captain Rita Markell (right) commiserates with Wynnstay's captain Janic Allport.

Baschurch win return

REVENGE was sweet for the bowlers from Baschurch last Wednesday, at the return match on home ground against Oswestry's Wynnstay Bowlers.

In Oswestry on June 5, the Wynnstay bowlers beat them 142 to 100, but last Wednesday, under the captaincy of Rita Markell, they won 156 to 109.

Gethin to the Max in time-trial

MAX Gethin returned to action after a two-week absence – and once again showed his dominance in Hafren CC's 12.5-mile Time Trial in Newtown.

Twenty-four riders took to the start line but no one could get near Gethin who knocked 18 seconds off his last run over the same course, finishing in 30.29.

He was 45 seconds quicker than the impressive Graham Harris in second with Paul Buffon pushing him all the way to finish third in 31.38.

Carl Spencer and Bryn Davies continued their battle at the top end of the field but this time they could not be split, both stopping the clock in 32.09 to take fourth.

With Gethin taking top spot on the night, second place in the junior section went to Robbie Howells who managed to beat his previous time on the road by 27 seconds to show his continued improvements.

The ladies series has been closely contested all season with Julie Frost and Dian Paul heading the field.

Unfortunately an ankle injury to Frost resulted in Diane taking the win by over two minutes.

If you are wanting to attend and don't have a racing partner, contact Tony Brooks on 01938 553582.

PLACINGS

Oswestry Veterans Bowling League

DIVISION 7 (VETERANS)	P	W	L	Agg	Pts
Chirk AAA	13	9	4	+389	73
Weston Rhyn A	13	9	4	+335	68
Overtown A	13	7	6	+136	64
Y O Croft A	13	4	9	+51	61
Llanrhaeadr A	13	5	8	-60	61
Whittington B	13	7	6	-71	60
Church Club A	13	4	9	-65	56
Royston	13	5	8	-210	50
Ceariog Valley A	13	4	9	-204	48
Weston Rhyn B	13	5	8	-301	44

DIVISION 8 (VETERANS)	P	W	L	Agg	Pts
Llangollen	12	12	1	+485	88
Flexays A	13	11	2	+616	86
Llanrhaeadr A	13	8	5	+210	67
Overtown B	13	9	4	+353	72
Cymydd A	12	7	5	+72	56
Cymydd B	13	5	8	-141	56
Whittington A	13	10	3	+353	72
Church Club B	13	4	9	-314	41
Whittington A	11	4	7	-282	38
Llanrhaeadr B	12	2	10	-414	33

■ UNBEATEN Welshpool produced A 15 shots victory over Llanidloes to take another step towards the Montgomeryshire Bowling League crown.

Church C left stunned by the basement boys

PROMOTION-chasing Church C suffered a surprising 7-3 defeat at rock bottom Llan-gollen B in division three of the Oswestry and District Bowls League, losing the aggregate by 58 shots (161-103).

The visitors were made to work hard for their points, with Phil James and Anthony Swannick both winning to 20 and Neil Williams 21-16.

WESTON RHYN boosted their hopes of survival after accounting for Chirk B 7-3, taking the aggregate by just nine (126-117), with Malcolm Jones (21-4) enjoying a sweep and John Gale also winning to eight.

WHITTINGTON E are still flirting with the basement places after suffering a 9-1 (157-114) loss at Plas Kynaston A, with their consolation win coming through Peter Williams 21-17.

LLANRHAEDR D are five points clear

at the top of division six after their 8-2 home win over LLANMYNECH C in which just six shots separated the sides (146-140).

It was nip and tuck between the local rivals, with Merf Williams (21-13) the best for the high flying hosts, with Brownen Jones (21-15) not far behind. Llany gained some consolation courtesy of a 21-7 win from Kevin Jones, while Dean Roberts (21-13) was their other winner.

LLANRHAEDR E lost ground after crashing 9-1 at promotion rivals CRIF-TINS D who took the aggregate by 79 (164-85).

John Tindall (21-17) was the lone winner, but Criflins held the aces with four single figure wins from Brian Howell (21-4), Billy Jones (21-5), Pete Broadbent (21-7) and Alan Morris (21-9).

LLANFYLLIN B were downed 7-3 (140-

121) at Johnstown E, their replies coming from Tony Birch and John Brautigam (both to 10), but their best was Jim Parry (21-7).

ELLESMEERE maintained their one-two at the top of division four with both the club's teams notching commanding wins in the latest round of action.

Leaders Ellesmere A ran out 8-2 (150-114) winners at CHURCH D to stay 17 points clear at the top.

The in-form Ian Metcalfe led the charge for the visitors by winning to eight, Dennis Jones also won to eight and Darren Matthews 21-12.

David Jones replied 21-10 for Church, with Sheila Drury (21-14) the other winner.

The club's B team stayed in touch in second spot, reducing the deficit with a 10-0 (168-175) home hammering of LLANMYNECH B.

Mike Edwards led the way by taking the coppers to one, Beryl Hall also winning to nine and Jeffery Birkett to eight.

Third placed FOX LANE stayed in the hunt after sweeping aside visiting WESTON RHYN B 9-1 (161-113). Terry Coles landing the sweep to eight and David Edwards winning to nine. Brenda Ashbrook (21-14) gained Rhyn's lone response.

WHITTINGTON C remain marooned at the foot of the table after going down 7-3 (152-124) at home to Corwen B, with their three responses coming through Philip Pier-point (21-9), Phil Jones (21-18) and Meirion Davies by one shot, 21-20.

LLANRHAEDR C shaded a 6-4 (146-126) verdict at home to LLANFYLLIN A to consolidate their position in the top half of the table. Gelly Williams took the sweep with a 21-2 success, while Bill Peel was another convincing single figure winner to six.

For Llanfyllin, Gwyn Gwalchmai was the best of the replies to 11.

YE OLDE CROFTE B continue to prop up division five after succumbing 8-2 (146-107) at home to pace-setters Bersham.

Bill Roberts and Geoff Thomas both secured 21-10 wins, and Tom Davies lost to 19, but for most part it was tough going for the hosts.

They are four points adrift of WESTON RHYN D who suffered a narrow 6-4 loss to Royston B, losing the shots by three (129-126).

Ian Watts and Bill Evans both won to nine for Rhyn, with Glyn Evans (21-12) and Stan Jones (21-15) also prevailing in a tight tussle.

WHITTINGTON D also continue to hover around the basement zone after being downed 6-4 at home to Johnstown F, losing the aggregate by 13 (147-134).

Meirion Davies won 21-9 and Edward Williams to 16.

LLANRHAEDR B were edged out 6-4 at Plas Kynaston B despite taking the shots by two (134-132), with Jo Saunders (21-1) and Juliet Brown (21-5) their two winners in style.

PLACINGS

Oswestry Bowling League

DIVISION 1	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Johnstown A	14	8	4	2	+245	86
Chirk AAA A	14	10	4	0	+243	85
Ruabon A	14	5	9	0	+191	85
Ceariog Valley A	14	10	4	0	+198	84
Criflins A	14	9	5	0	+181	84
Whittington A	14	7	7	0	+158	74
Corwen A	14	8	6	0	+23	73
Flexays A	14	7	7	0	+2	67
Church A	14	9	1	0	-12	83
Llanrhaeadr A	14	9	1	0	-135	51
Weston Rhyn A	14	3	10	0	-439	45
Overtown A	14	2	11	1	-336	43

DIVISION 2	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Cymydd A	14	9	4	1	+166	86
George	14	10	4	0	+151	83
Church B	14	8	5	1	-26	79
Llanrhaeadr A	14	7	7	0	+135	78
Johnstown B	14	6	8	0	+154	77
Ye Olde Crofte A	14	6	7	1	+45	70
Black Lion	14	5	8	1	-21	68
Llangollen A	14	6	7	1	+161	67
Llangynog A	14	6	7	1	-68	64
Johnstown D	14	5	7	2	-156	59
Johnstown C	14	5	9	0	-198	56
Whittington B	14	5	9	0	-273	53

DIVISION 3	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Criflins B	14	10	4	0	+423	94
Criflins C	14	8	5	1	+310	83
Church C	14	9	5	0	+14	77
Royston A	14	8	6	0	+28	72
Chirk AAA B	14	8	1	0	+27	72
Plas Kynaston A	14	7	6	1	-5	70
Weston Rhyn C	14	8	6	0	-35	69
Ceariog Valley B	14	9	5	0	-6	67
Whittington E	14	6	8	0	-56	63
Overtown B	14	5	9	0	-88	63
Flexays B	14	4	9	1	-289	60
Llangollen B	14	4	10	0	-321	50

DIVISION 4	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Ellesmere A	14	12	2	0	+511	104
Ellesmere B	14	9	5	0	+587	94
Fox Lane	14	9	5	0	+202	84
Corwen B	14	8	6	0	+186	79
Llanrhaeadr B	14	9	5	0	+145	78
Llanrhaeadr C	14	7	7	0	+87	72
Ceariog Valley C	14	7	7	0	-51	70
Llanfyllin A	14	9	1	0	-196	65
Whittington C	14	6	8	0	-154	68
Weston Rhyn D	14	5	9	0	-280	54
Whittington D	14	4	10	0	-265	53
Church D	14	4	10	0	-298	47
Whittington E	14	2	12	0	-631	37

DIVISION 5	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Bersham	14	12	2	0	+577	104
Ruabon B	14	12	2	0	+577	104
Llanrhaeadr B	14	7	5	2	-9	77
Whittington F	14	9	4	1	+47	70
Cymydd B	14	7	7	0	+97	70
Royston B	14	7	7	0	+45	66
Plas Kynaston B	14	7	1	0	-196	65
Whittington F	14	4	9	1	-154	58
Johnstown F	14	6	8	0	-223	56
Overtown C	14	5	9	0	-233	56
Weston Rhyn E	14	6	8	0	-336	52
Ye Olde Crofte B	14	3	11	0	-365	47

DIVISION 6	P	W	L	D	Agg	Pts
Llanrhaeadr D	10	8	2	0	+233	68
Llanrhaeadr E	10	5	5	0	+16	53
Criflins D	9	6	3	0	+137	52
Llanfyllin B	10	4	5	1	-14	51
Weston Rhyn E	10	5	5	0	-83	49
Church E	10	5	5	0	+145	48
Weston Rhyn F	10	6	4	0	-79	42
Llangynog B	9	3	6	0	-56	41
Johnstown E	10	3	7	0	-189	36

PLACINGS

Flowit Shropshire Premier League

Premier League					
	P	MW	GW	Agg	Pts
Meole Brace	15	14	121	613	149
Newport	15	11	118	684	140
Sir J Bayley	15	11	111	321	133
Chester Road	14	10	103	405	123
Castletides	15	7	94	142	109
Bowring	15	8	92	-30	108
St Georges	14	7	86	5	101
Wrock Wood	15	6	78	-205	90
Burway	14	5	79	-111	89
Ilfon	15	7	75	-235	89
Bylet	15	4	75	-450	83
Hadley USC	15	4	74	-235	82
Wern USC	15	4	74	-408	82
Arch Wron	14	4	56	-496	64

FIXTURES

FRIDAY'S FIXTURES: Bowring v Wern USC, Hadley v Ilfon, Bylet v Wrockwardine Wood, Newport v Sir John Bayley, Burway v Castletides, Meole Brace v St Georges, Chester Road v Archibald Worthington.

Fossils unearth Memorial Trophy final victory



The victorious Welshpool Fossils side that won the Tony Windsor Memorial Trophy at the Venue, Oswestry

Welshpool side make hay in sun

CHAMPIONS Welshpool Fossils lifted the Tony Windsor Memorial Trophy with a 2-0 victory over Whitechurch Alport in front of a good crowd at the Venue, Oswestry.

With the heat taking its toll on both teams, the final was tighter than expected but the Fossils took the silverware with two second half strikes through Mark Roberts and a Chris Jew free-kick.

The man of the match award was given to Welshpool's midfielder, Ian Jacques.

Meanwhile, the Shropshire Mid Wales Veterans League will start again on Friday, August 20. Any teams interested in joining should contact Graeme Kirkham on graeme@gotothevenue.com

The deadline for entering new teams will be August 1.



Graeme Kirkham is presented with the man of the match award from Ian Jacques

Ilfon set for basement battle at rivals Hadley

IFTON are gearing up for a crucial outing to Hadley on Friday evening as they battle to stay clear of the basement places in the Flowit Shropshire Premier Bowls League, writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.

The lower half of the table remains congested, with the St Martins side anxiously looking over their shoulders despite last week's 9-5 home win over Bowring.

They are fifth from bottom, two places above Friday's hosts, so will be keen to get a good haul of points under their belts to avoid being dragged into basement danger.

However, they will need a big improvement in their away form which, like in previous seasons, has failed to deliver again this term.

After their hefty 12-2 defeat at Burway the week before, Ilfon bounced back with a 9-5 victory at home to Bowring, taking the aggregate by 15 (225-210) in a closely fought tussle.

Giles Evans took the most valuable player honours with a thrilling 21-20 win against Peter Roden, while the biggest wins of the night came from Leighton Roberts and Darren Lacey who both prevailed to 11.

Nicky Jones won 21-14, Keiron Cooper 21-15, and Derrick Roberts and Megs Phillips were both 21-17 winners.

NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

Tuesday (July 23) - Division One:

Johnstown A v Church A, Weston Rhyn A v Corwen A, Ruabon A v Criflins A, Chirk A v Flexays A, Overtown A v Llanrhaeadr A, Ceariog Valley A v Whittington A, Division Two: Cymydd A v George, Church B v Johnstown B, Ye Olde Crofte A v Llangollen A, Whittington B v Llanrhaeadr A.

Wednesday (July 24) - Division Two:

Johnstown D v Johnstown C, Black Lion v Llangynog A.

SPORT

Frankton lose out in a feast of runs

Knockin answer call



Ian Whitticase's 46 helped Frankton set 254-4

FRANKTON hit the run trail – but still suffered a four wicket defeat at Ludlow in a high-scoring Shropshire League premier division clash that witnessed over 500 runs.

The league newcomers had made the most of favourable batting conditions to total a challenging 254 all out in the 48th over.

Thomas Welti led the way with a run a ball 80, including four sixes and seven fours, while opener Ian Whitticase joined in with 46 and Thomas Wilkie an unbeaten 46 off 39 balls, with a six and four other boundaries.

It was tough going for the bowlers in the sun, but Ludlow's south African Jason Van Loggrenberg picked up a terrific 6-48 off 13 overs to help restrict the visitors from landing an even bigger total.

Ludlow set about the run chase with some early stroke play, before Ian Simmons kept the scoreboard ticking with 66 off 64 balls at four, with three sixes and eight fours.

At 204-6, the run chase appeared to be faltering, but Sam Edwards (41no) and Jack Griffiths (27no) had other ideas and guided their side to victory with a couple of overs remaining.

Richard Parry-Jones was the most successful of the bowlers with 2-53.

Opener Dave Powell plundered 126 not out as FRANKTON II continue to set the pace in the reserve division two with an emphatic winning draw against Beacon II.

Andrew Main (54) and Lloyd Phillips (30no) also got in on the act, helping Frankton to a daunting 242-2 after 45 overs.

Beacon played out for a draw in reply, finishing on 152-8 despite the efforts of Jack Kelly who finished with impressive figures of 6-39 from 16 overs.

On a day for batsmen, Andy Brown also cracked a century as FRANKTON III consolidated mid-table in division five with a dominant winning draw at Lilleshall III.

Batting first, the runs flowed with Brown making 117 and George Austin 61 as Frankton set 234-5 in their 40 overs, Peter Maltby taking 4-40.

Lilleshall never looked likely to threaten the target, but managed to cling on at 165-8 at the close, largely down to Paul Robinson's 69, while there were two wickets apiece for James Wigley, Archie Dickinson and Austin.

RUNAWAY leaders Knockin & Kinnerley are looking unstoppable at the top of Shropshire League division two after storming to a nine-wicket success at lowly Llanidloes.

The top-versus-bottom clash proved one-sided with Llanani managing just 158-7 in their 45 overs in sweltering heat, with Hugh Morris taking 3-30 for the visitors and Matty Evans 2-34.

In reply, Knockin made light of the target in favourable conditions as they raced to victory in 19 overs for the loss of one wicket.

Skinner Jak Jones hit 32 at the top of the order in an 85-run stand for the first wicket, before fellow opener Richard Williams cracked an unbeaten 72 off 58 deliveries, including five sixes and seven fours, to finish the job. Dan McCloy weighed in with a brisk 32 not out (three sixes and two fours).

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY II pressed their promotion claims in the reserve division two with a four-wicket win against visiting Newtown II.

Three wickets apiece from Michael Carpenter (3-24) and Andy Beckett (3-21) saw Newtown dismissed for 188, Chris Bound providing most defiance with 48.

Opener Andy Beckett led the home reply with 16 fours in his 92, featuring in a crucial second-wicket stand with Dave Jones (51) that helped set up victory in the 42nd over.

Battling to steer clear of the basement places in division five, KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY III succumbed to a 38-run defeat against Raman Services III.

An unbeaten 106 from Matthew Higgins set up Raman's imposing 246-2 in 40 overs, but Knockin made a good fist of it in reply before being bowled out for 208, Shane Moses top-scoring on 43, Julian Rendall making 27 not out and Charles Brown 23. Knockin remain third from bottom.

Ellesmere maintain their push for survival

PROSPECTS continue to look up for Ellesmere who maintained their improved fortunes with a four wicket win over Willey to climb away from the second division basement stragglers.

Willey warmed to the task in the sweltering conditions as they posted 224-7 after 45 overs after electing to bat first, with Alex Duncan (3-43) the most successful of the bowlers.

Undaunted, Ellesmere timed their run chase well, with opener Adam Lewis laying the foundations with 77 while skipper Tom Davies (40no) helped see them over the line with two overs to spare.

Kieran Barry (27) and Fraser Duncan (23) also chipped in with useful knocks, with Ellesmere now 15 points above the relegation zone.

ELLESMERE II stayed in sight of the promotion places in division six with a comfortable winning draw against Allscott III.

Opener Mike Lewis hit 64, Mike Doyle 31 and Felix Ashley 28 as the Meresiders were bowled out for 225 in 36 overs.

Allscott lost early wickets in reply, before closing on 153-7, Ryan Berry top scoring on 37 with George Duncan taking 4-40.

Welshpool stranded at foot of table

WELSHPOOL II remain adrift at the foot of the Shropshire League reserve division one after a five wicket loss to Newport II at Maesdyr.

Steady batting saw them post 139-6 in 50 overs, Richard Holden making 34 and Rhys Williams 30, and two early wickets from Damon Preston (2-46) gave Pool hope of a much needed win as the visitors made a shaky reply.

But they recovered, to get home in the 38th over for the loss of five wickets, Bradley Sussex finishing 37 not out.

By contrast, WELSHPOOL III are going well at the top of division six, but had to settle for a losing draw at Coum III, closing on 205-9 off 45 overs in response to the home side's 243.

Dave Farrell (83) and Chris Brayne (77) proved the mainstays of the Coum innings, while Allan Edward Williams took 4-41 and David Williams 2-56.

In reply, Welshpool made a decent enough start, Stuart Jones hitting 56 at three, while Allan Harris made 22 and Neil Pryce 20 not out at the end to ensure a draw

Skipper Robinson leads by example in Oswestry cruise

AN excellent all-round display by skipper Mark Robinson and another hostile spell of bowling by Jonathan Miles led Oswestry's table-topping cricketers to a 73-run victory at Water Orton.

The 24 points earned – their seventh maximum haul from the last eight games – opened up a four-point lead for Oswestry at the top of the Birmingham League Division Two.

And with third-placed Harborne the visitors at Morda Road this Saturday, it's just one big game after another for Robinson's side.

Oswestry's batting left a lot to be desired, with only Alex Huxley (34) of the early batsmen putting up much resistance.

When Mark Robinson was joined at the crease by his brother Paul, the score was a measly 122-9, but Mark smashed an unbeaten 45 to take the total to 149 before Paul fell victim to a bizarre run-out.

If their batting was poor, Oswestry's bowling was anything but – and the home side were sent packing for just 76.

Miles (4-40) rattled through the early order, aided by two sharp slip catches by Mark Robinson, and Paul Robinson (1-28) bowled an excellent 10-over opening spell at the other end.

Then Mark Robinson took 3-3 to finish off the innings, bowling last man Lesroy Irish to round off a good day's work. They now lead second placed Old Elizabethans by four points.

OSWESTRY II came within one wicket of beating Aston Manor II in the 2nd XI division two (north), but had to settle for an 18-point win in a draw.

Kevin Evans was agonisingly short of a century when the Oswestry innings closed on 254-3. Evans finished unbeaten on 98, having shared in a huge opening stand with Alex Davidson (83); he also received good support from Tim Bierley (29).

Aston Manor were never in the hunt when they replied, but their last pair held out for four overs as they closed on 178-9.

Davidson was the most successful bowler with 3-21, while debutant David Padcock took 2-46.

Another skipper in good all-round form was Adam Woodcock, who led OSWESTRY III to a comfortable five-wicket victory at Calverhall in the Shropshire League division three.

Woodcock took 3-57 off 13 overs as Calverhall were bowled out for 200, and then smashed 81 to lead Oswestry to 203-5 in reply.

Oswestry's James Bradbury took three wickets at no cost at the end of the home

CRICKET

by John Bridgwater

innings, and Dan Renwick took 2-40.

Dave Shaw (44) and Martin Chambers (26no) helped Woodcock finish off the job.

Meanwhile, CAE GLAS II maintained their challenge in the Shropshire League reserve division three with a 113-run hammering of local rivals OSWESTRY IV at Oswestry School.

On another sweltering Saturday afternoon, The Glas were not disappointed when asked to bat and reached 227-3 from their 45 overs thanks to two substantial partnerships.

First, there was an opening one of 86 between Nick Chesters (42) and George Candler (85 not out) and, after the loss of three quick wickets, an undefeated fourth wicket partnership of 128 between Candler and Tim Morris (61 not out) piled on more agony.

For Oswestry there were two wickets for young spinner Xavie Clarke (2-40) in a tough day in the field.

In reply, the hosts got off to a solid start with 51 on the board before the loss of their first wicket. However, once the opening partnership had been broken, wickets fell at regular intervals to leave them all out for 114.

There were four wickets each for Shaun Southern (4-42) and Gavin Porritt (with remarkable figures of 4-3), who cleaned up the tail.

Ian Holgate took the other two wickets at a cost of 18, while there was some excellent work in the field with two good catches for Simon Wood and three catches behind the stumps for George Candler.

For Oswestry Jim Phillips top scored with 34, and Dan Graham made 31, with Keith Sadler chipping in with 19. The Glas picked up 24 points with Oswestry just one point to show for their efforts.

CAE GLAS' first team kept up the promotion pressure in division three without hitting a ball in anger as Chelmarsh conceded their match.

Sixty and not out for Cae Glas Cricket Club



Cae Glas players and officials, past and present, line up to mark the club's 60th anniversary (back, from left): Keith Yapp, Barry Richards, Tim Morris, Ian Holgate, Gareth Edgerton, Aidan Martyn, John Clarke, Tim Turner, Aled Roberts, Ruth Nimantha, Joe Yapp; (front): Peter Richards, Colin Perkins, Peter Humphreys, June Humphreys, Andy Griffiths, Pat Humby, Andrew Dibnah.

PLAYERS past and present recalled days gone by as Cae Glas cricketers hosted the Saxons, a select Evening League XI, to mark the 60th anniversary of the club, writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.

The thrilling game at Gatacre, which Glas lost by just six runs, was watched by a number of veterans who played in the 1953 season and later in the 1960s, including Colin Perkins, Peter

Richards, Pat Humby and Peter and June Humphreys who are now patron and president of the club.

The Saxons won the toss and elected to bat first. Charlie Haylett top scored with a fine 58 and Mark Davies 31 put bat to ball as they amassed a challenging 168-5. Tom Jones was the most productive Cae Glas bowler with figures of 2-16.

The Glas reply began disastrously

with wickets falling quickly, such was the size of the Challenge. However, Ruth Nimantha, with a sparkling 31, and man-of-the-match Tom Jones, with 67, pushed the Saxons all the way before falling just six runs short of their target as Glas ran out of overs and closed on 162-8.

A great evening was enjoyed by all, as players past and present reflected on past years by with fond affection.

PLACINGS AND SHROPSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE FIXTURE LIST

Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League

	P W2	L	A	B	W	P
Oswestry	12	2	4	0	4	7
Old Elizabethans ..	12	5	2	1	15	17
Harborne	12	5	1	2	10	7
Stourbridge	12	3	4	0	4	10
Water Orton	12	1	6	0	7	15
Eastnor	12	2	4	1	9	17
Whitchurch	12	3	4	2	11	13
Halesowen	12	4	6	0	12	16
Stratford-up-Avon ..	12	2	7	0	18	19
Atkott	12	3	6	0	20	16
Coventry & N.W.	12	2	8	1	14	20
Fordhouses	12	1	9	1	22	12

SECOND TEAM

DIVISION 2 (N)							
	P	W	L	A	B	W	Pts
Penn	12	7	1	1	3	7	205
Streeley	12	4	2	1	15	14	195
Milford Hall	12	6	2	0	15	14	195
Kenilworth	12	4	3	0	14	12	194
Aston Manor	12	4	2	1	14	13	174
Cannock	12	5	3	0	9	13	174
Stourbridge	12	2	6	1	14	16	131
Oswestry	12	1	7	0	19	26	125
Quatt	12	3	8	0	18	16	104
Fordhouses	12	1	6	1	19	20	100
Whitchurch	12	1	7	1	20	27	78
Brewood	12	0	10	0	12	25	71

Premier Division: Bomere Heath v Ludlow, Coum v Allscott, Frankton v Albrighton, St Georges v Newport, Worfield v Wem, Wroxeter v Raman Services.

Division One: Alberbury v Much Wenlock, Brosley v Shelton, Condoover v Madeley, Montgomery v Newtown, Pontesbury v Lilleshall, Welshpool v Foron.

Division Two: Beacon v Ellesmere, Iscoyd & Fenns Bank v Corvedale, Knockin & Kinnerley v Bishop's Castle, Market Drayton v Llanidloes, Tibberton v Wellington II, Willey v Grove.

Division Three: Chelmarsh v St Georges III, Church Aston v Calverhall, Church Stretton v Wheaton Aston, Harcourt v Cae Glas, Shifnal III v Acton Reynald, Oswestry III v Shrewsbury III.

Division Four: Bomere Heath III v Hodnet, Guilsfield v Wem III, Hinckley v Overton, Newport III v Ludlow III, Pres v Bridgnorth III, Lilleshall III, Frankton III v Wellington I, Hales v Knockin & Kinnerley III, Madeley III v Whittington, Raman

Services III v Quayside. Division Six: Corvedale II v Pontesbury II, Ellesmere II v Coum II, Grove II v Welshpool II, Llanidloes II v Brosley II, St Georges IV v Allscott III, Whitchurch III v Alberbury III.

Reserve Division One: Lilleshall II v Coum II, Ludlow II v Welshpool II, Newport II v St Georges II, Raman Services II v Wroxeter II, Wellington IV v Alberbury II, Wem II v Worfield II.

Reserve Division Two: Albrighton II v Frankton II, Allscott II v Pontesbury II, Beacon II v Willey II, Madeley II v Condoover II, Newtown II v Montgomery II, Shelton II v Knockin & Kinnerley II.

Reserve Division Three: Acton Reynald II v Shifnal IV, Bishop's Castle II v Oswestry IV, Cae Glas II v Market Drayton II, Forton II v Bomere Heath II, Ludlow IV v Iscoyd & Fenns Bank II, Much Wenlock II v Tibberton II.

Young swimmers make waves

WELSHPOOL's young swimmers are aiming high after reaching the finals of the Nuneaton Junior Swimming League.

The Sharks cut their teeth to finish fourth in the league and enter the finals day on September 14 knowing that a finish in the top four will guarantee promotion to the top division in the West Midlands.

The club also travelled to Coventry for an

open gala in a 50 metres pool and returned home with 38 medals, with Jack Jones winning the day's top boys' award.

Jones recorded a time in his 200 freestyle which places him eighth in Britain for his age also second in Wales in his 50 fly and 50 back. Ben Simister also clocked a time which places him sixth in Wales this year.

The club is looking for new members.

Davies bags maiden ton as Guilsfield hit big total

OPENER Ryan Davies hit his maiden century for Guilsfield in a high-scoring winning draw against Hodnet & Peplow in the Shropshire League division four.

Davies was eventually dismissed for 105, featuring in a good opening stand with Dave Harris (27) while George Ryan weighed in with 42 not out as the Guils posted 253-6 in their 45 overs as they look to push into the top half of the table.

Paul Pitcher and Michael Bircher both hit 51 in Hodnet's reply, but their chase fell just short on 235-8, Harris making it a good all round day with 3-46 and Ali Johnston took 2-30.

WHITTINGTON lost more ground on the division five leaders as their recent wobble continued with a six wicket loss at home to Worfield III.

Deciding to bat first, they struggled to thrive in the sun as they suffered an early collapse before reaching 158-9 in 40 overs, thanks to some tail-end resistance from Martin Ellis (31) and Kieron Lewis (23no), David Curtis taking staggering figures of 6-14 off 12 overs.

Worfield never looked back after a solid start, opening Greg Summers hitting 44 and No3 Ollie Jones 43, while Matty Williams claimed 2-38.

MONTGOMERY moved a step closer to safety in division one with a 45 run win at home to Lilleshall.

Deciding to bat first, Monty posted 203-7 in 50 overs before dismissing their visitors for 158 in 42 overs. Victory means they are now fourth from bottom, and have leapfrogged Powys rivals Welshpool while they are just six points adrift of Lilleshall.

MONTGOMERY II had an exciting winning draw at mid table rivals Allscott II in the reserve division two in which just 14 runs separated the sides.

After posting 215-9 in 45 overs, Monty looked well placed with Jonathan Williams hitting 58, Adam Bowen 38 while opening bat Brian Corfield and James Corfield both made 31.

Allscott gave it a good go in reply, Ali Raza keeping his side in the hunt with 68.

But the visitors just had the edge, clinching a narrow winning draw as Allscott finished on 201-8, James Corfield impressing with 4-42 and Mike Williams 2-18.

SPORT

PLACINGS

Manby Bowdler
Shropshire County
Crickle League

PREMIER DIVISION				LC/Apen	Pts
Newport	13	11	0	0	271
Ludlow & SS	13	8	1	2	0 215
St Georges	13	7	2	2	0 214
Reverend Services	13	7	2	1	0 211
Wem	13	6	1	0	196
Worfield	13	4	1	0	182
Alington	13	5	0	7	1 183
Newtown	13	4	2	0	183
Wroxeter & Upp	13	4	4	1	142 105
Bornem Heath	13	3	1	9	0 103
Alington	13	2	4	7	0 101
Cound	13	1	3	9	0 80

DIVISION 1				LC/Apen	Pts
Much Wenlock	13	6	3	0	257
Shelton	13	6	3	0	199
Madley	13	6	3	2	0 190
Brosely	13	4	3	1	0 190
Newtown	13	4	3	1	0 186
Alington	13	4	3	1	0 168
Forton	13	5	0	7	1 151
Lilleshall	13	4	2	1	146
Montgomery	13	3	5	0	140
Welsph	13	4	2	6	1 130
Pontesbury	13	3	1	8	1 118
Conover	13	2	4	6	1 113

DIVISION 2				LC/Apen	Pts
Krooklin & Kinn	13	12	0	1	0 265
Market Drayton	13	8	2	1	0 217
Wellington III	13	7	0	4	1 199
Beacon	13	5	2	4	1 185
Bishops Castle	13	7	2	1	0 173
Tibberton	13	4	4	1	0 155
Willey	13	5	0	2	1 135
Ellesmere	13	3	5	2	1 123
Conover	13	3	0	9	1 122
Grove	13	4	1	7	1 110
Iscoedy & FB	13	3	2	8	0 108
Llanidloes	13	2	0	10	1 85

DIVISION 3				LC/Apen	Pts
Wheaton Aston	13	6	4	0	1 239
Cae Glas	13	5	2	1	0 195
Shifnal III	13	5	2	1	0 194
Shrewsbury III	13	5	1	1	0 192
Chelmarsh	13	4	3	1	0 156
St Georges III	13	4	2	1	0 156
Church Aston	13	3	5	0	138
Oswestry III	13	3	4	1	0 135
Church Stretton	13	3	5	2	1 134
Acton Reynald	13	4	1	8	1 127
Calverhall	13	1	10	1	0 80
Harcourt	13	1	5	7	0 75

DIVISION 4				LC/Apen	Pts
Newport III	12	11	0	1	0 261
Prees	12	7	1	4	0 184
Overton-on-Ouse	12	6	1	4	0 184
Ludlow & SS III	12	5	1	0	162
Hodnet & Peplow	11	5	1	3	2 142
Gudfild	12	2	4	5	1 126
Wem II	11	2	0	5	1 111
Hinstock	12	1	6	2	1 109
Bridgnorth III	12	3	1	6	2 101
Trynall & Seddon	12	2	7	2	0 99
Bornem Heath III	12	1	5	1	0 97

DIVISION 5				LC/Apen	Pts
Harpers	13	9	1	1	0 250
Quayside	13	9	0	4	0 202
Whittington	13	6	2	4	0 202
Wellington V	13	8	0	4	0 200
Hale	13	7	2	0	196
Cotton Hall	13	6	0	7	0 166
Frankton III	13	5	2	4	0 163
Worfield III	13	5	0	8	1 140
Reman Svcs III	13	4	4	0	119
Krooklin & Kinn III	13	3	1	9	0 118
Madley III	13	3	1	9	0 103
Lilleshall III	13	1	7	4	0 86

DIVISION 6				LC/Apen	Pts
Welsph III	13	8	3	0	220
Brosely II	12	7	2	3	0 212
Whitchurch III	12	6	2	2	1 189
Grove II	12	6	2	3	0 182
Ellesmere II	12	6	2	3	0 174
St Georges IV	12	6	1	4	0 159
Alington II	13	5	1	6	0 151
Quatt III	12	4	0	8	0 117
Pontesbury II	11	3	4	1	1 116
Cound II	12	3	6	1	0 111
Allscott III	12	1	7	3	0 92
Conover II	11	3	0	8	0 78
Llanidloes II	12	1	2	8	1 56

REVERSE DIVISION 1				LC/Apen	Pts
Newport II	13	10	1	2	0 260
Ludlow & SS II	13	9	3	0	248
St Georges II	13	10	0	3	0 230
Reverend Services II	13	7	1	3	1 213
Wem I	13	7	1	3	1 213
Wem II	13	6	1	5	1 187
Wroxeter & Upp I	13	6	1	0	170
Alington I	13	3	7	0	126
Lilleshall I	13	3	8	2	0 129
Cound I	12	2	1	9	0 107
Wellington IV	13	1	3	7	1 107
Welsph II	13	1	1	1	0 73

REVERSE DIVISION 2				LC/Apen	Pts
Frankton II	13	7	4	1	0 238
Madley II	13	8	1	4	1 202
Krooklin & Kinn II	13	4	2	1	0 185
Conover I	13	5	4	3	0 165
Beacon II	13	5	4	3	1 160
Montgomery II	13	3	5	1	1 139
Allscott II	13	4	2	6	1 133
Pontesbury I	13	4	3	5	0 133
Shelton I	13	5	0	7	1 132
Willey I	13	3	1	3	1 121
Newtown I	13	3	4	1	0 115
Alington II	13	3	6	1	2 94

REVERSE DIVISION 3				LC/Apen	Pts
Market Drayton II	13	9	2	2	0 237
Wellington III	13	6	3	1	0 212
Chelmarsh II	13	5	2	1	0 196
Forton II	13	5	2	0	166
Much Wenlock II	13	5	2	3	1 164
Alington I	13	5	3	0	153
Montgomery I	13	3	8	2	0 159
Iscoedy & FB II	13	6	2	5	0 141
Shifnal II	13	2	3	7	1 116
Bishops Castle II	13	3	1	8	1 109
Ludlow & SS IV	13	3	6	0	107
Acton Reynald II	13	2	2	7	1 07

REVERSE DIVISION 4				LC/Apen	Pts
Market Drayton I	13	9	2	2	0 237
Wellington II	13	6	3	1	0 212
Chelmarsh I	13	5	2	1	0 196
Forton I	13	5	2	0	166
Much Wenlock I	13	5	2	3	1 164
Alington I	13	5	3	0	153
Montgomery I	13	3	8	2	0 159
Iscoedy & FB I	13	6	2	5	0 141
Shifnal I	13	2	3	7	1 116
Bishops Castle I	13	3	1	8	1 109
Ludlow & SS IV	13	3	6	0	107
Acton Reynald I	13	2	2	7	1 07

REVERSE DIVISION 5				LC/Apen	Pts
Market Drayton I	13	9	2	2	0 237
Wellington I	13	6	3	1	0 212
Chelmarsh I	13	5	2	1	0 196
Forton I	13	5	2	0	166
Much Wenlock I	13	5	2	3	1 164
Alington I	13	5	3	0	153
Montgomery I	13	3	8	2	0 159
Iscoedy & FB I	13	6	2	5	0 141
Shifnal I	13	2	3	7	1 116
Bishops Castle I	13	3	1	8	1 109
Ludlow & SS IV	13	3	6	0	107
Acton Reynald I	13	2	2	7	1 07

REVERSE DIVISION 6				LC/Apen	Pts
Market Drayton I	13	9	2	2	0 237
Wellington I	13	6	3	1	0 212
Chelmarsh I	13	5	2	1	0 196
Forton I	13	5	2	0	166
Much Wenlock I	13	5	2	3	1 164
Alington I	13	5	3	0	153
Montgomery I	13	3	8	2	0 159
Iscoedy & FB I	13	6	2	5	0 141
Shifnal I	13	2	3	7	1 116
Bishops Castle I	13	3	1	8	1 109
Ludlow & SS IV	13	3	6	0	107
Acton Reynald I	13	2	2	7	1 07

Oswestry Ladies tennis team net double victory

It was a full programme of league fixtures for Oswestry Tennis Club with the teams registering some mixed results.

The men's first team had two difficult fixtures to contend with, the first of which was when they came up against a strong team from Boughey Gardens which consisted of three young players and one old head.

In the first round rubbers, the first pairing of Simon Jackson and Gary Edwards lost 4-6, 2-6 with the second pair of Keith and Matt Grice also losing in straight sets 0-6, 2-6.

In the reverse rubbers, Jackson and Edwards created a lot of chances to break their duck but couldn't capitalise and again went down in straight sets 4-6, 3-6 with the Grice duo losing their rubber in the same scoreline as their first 0-6, 2-6.

Their second fixture disappointingly

almost replicated the first when they played away at Hinstock.

Jackson and Edwards frustratingly led 5-4 in both of their sets in the first rubber and even held a set point in the second set before finally losing 5-7, 5-7.

The Grices put in a much improved performance against the opposing second pair but narrowly lost 5-7, 2-6. In the reverse rubbers Jackson and Edwards recorded their first win 6-3, 6-3, recovering from a 1-3 deficit in the second set but Keith and Matt Grice found the opposing first pair too strong and lost 0-6, 1-6.

The men's second team played their first home fixture of the season against a side from Critins Tennis Club in the inauguration of the Cafe Radio local league which began with a good quality match which was edged by Oswestry.

Critins first pair of Powell and Evans showed too much match guile for Oswestry's first pair of Saffron Rainey and Stephen Mosford who too often tried to win the point early making too many unforced errors.

Chris Powell's serve proved an effective weapon to winning games but the Oswestry pair fought back to threaten in the second set but Evans and Powell won in straight sets 4-6, 5-7. Oswestry's second pair of John Hewett and Andy Field, both dogged fighters and fierce competitors had a good win in their first rubber against Hopton and Evans 6-0, 6-2.

In the reverse rubbers Rainey and Mosford, injured from their first round loss, beat Hopton and Evans 6-0, 6-0.

Hewett and Field lost to the first pair 2-6, 3-6 Evans and Powell but the five pairs

they won in the second rubber was enough to ensure a winning draw on games for the Oswestry team.

Both Ladies teams recorded victories in their fixtures. The Ladies first team had another home fixture against Shrewsbury 2.

Josie Macrae and Alice Scott got off to a controlling start beating Shrewsbury's first pair in straight sets, while Kat Oakley and Judy Lloyd had a similar result taking the rubber against the Shrewsbury second pair with the loss of only one game 6-1, 6-0.

In the reverse rubbers it was a similar result with both pairs dominant and winning in straight sets securing the maximum eight points.

The Ladies second team played their final home fixture of the season against a side from Norton-in-Hales.

The fixture got off to a good start with both pairs of Carol Slater partnering Speth Cumpston and Linda Davies partnering Julie Phillips taking both the first round rubbers in straight sets 6-2, 7-5 and 6-3, 6-2 respectively.

In the reverse rubbers, Davies and Phillips continued to dominate with another straight sets win 7-5, 6-4 but Slater and Cumpston although taking the first set 6-2, dropped their level in the second set and soon lost it 2-6 taking the rubber into a deciding third set tie break. They soon found themselves 2-6 down but fought back to level the score at 9-9 but then disappointingly dropped the next two points allowing the visitors to claim the rubber.

It was yet another valuable seven points for the Oswestry ladies who have only two away fixtures left in their season.

Morda Development Centre gives youth chance to shine

MORDA United FC have joined forces with a major football academy to launch a Football Development Centre along with a Centre of Excellence at its Weston Road ground.

The Merican Regional League premier division club is linking up with Doncaster-based football academy ESPRIT, and is aiming the football development centre at local junior players between 4-16 years of age.

The centre offers school leavers with a keen interest in sport the opportunity of further education and receive onsite education to complete either a BTEC national certificate or diploma. Other benefits of the course are also to assist future development on and off the field.

Morda chairman Brian Davies said: "To be associated with ESPRIT Football Academy is absolutely brilliant news for a club like ourselves, and we are looking forward in working alongside their management team."

"Let's hope that one day that a future son or daughter can progress in non-League circles with the overall aim of guiding them into professional football."

Managing the Centre is Dave Dew who is a former Football League Youth Development, Education and Welfare & Recruitment officer.

Joining Dew are coaches Rich Hirst (Loughborough Sports) and Steve Hutchinson (Leeds Metropolitan University).

The Centre of Excellence, also based at the football club at Weston Road, is aimed towards all children between the ages of 4-16 and has been set up to deliver quality coaching that incorporates a new approach to coaching through the use of video, nutrition, social development, psychological development and physical development at a cost which the club considers to be the lowest in the area.

Daily coaching will be available throughout the summer from 11am and 1.30pm, starting on Monday July 29. Each session will be around one hour 45 minutes to two hours long and cost £2 per session. Children who attend should bring a water bottle due to the current heatwave.

Those who wish to attend



Launching the new development centre at Morda are (from left) Rich Hirst, Stephen Hutchinson, David Dew, Emlyn Jones and Brian Davies (Morda chairman)

New Saints Euro hopefuls get in the picture



The New Saints line up for a pre-season photocall ahead of tonight's Champions League match in Wrexham

Stephens enjoys hero status after brilliant Euro win

FORMER Welshpool Town midfielder Ross Stephens made his mark on the European stage with a crucial goal as Welsh Premier side Prestatyn Town wrote themselves in the history books by stunning Latvian side Metalurgs in Leipsaj.

Trailing 2-1 from their home leg in the first qualifying round of the Europa League, the Seasiders were not fazed to progress, even more so when the hosts made it 3-1 on aggregate in the return on home soil.

But Stephens reduced the arrears with a header and, after player boss Neil Gibson levelled matters on aggregate, he later converted a spot kick in a tense penalty shootout after extra time had failed to separate the sides.

The tie looked to be heading for a Latvian victory until a turning point just past the hour when home

defender Dzintars Zirniss was sent off for

SPORT

Cricket
Cae Glas cricket club's 60th party
Page 46



Bowls
Baschurch make it revenge mission
Page 45

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Maesydre men look to halt a poor run

WELSHPOOL'S cricketers will be hoping for a timely "double" when they host Forton in the Shropshire League Division One on Saturday after slipping into the lower reaches of the table.

The Maesydre side ran out emphatic 10-wicket winners when the sides met earlier in the season to move to fourth in the table but, since then, they have been on the slide and now languish third from bottom.

Their cause was not helped by last week's six wicket defeat at Madeley in a high-scoring affair, with the Telford side avenging a heavy loss back in April.

Pool are now just 12 points off the basement zone, and have slipped 10 points behind local rivals Montgomery who will be out to maintain their improved fortunes at home to Newtown on Saturday.

Form

Opting to bat first in scorching conditions last week, Welshpool would have fancied their chances after posting 219-7 in 50 overs.

That was thanks to half centuries from opener Joe Birch and No 6 Rob Birch, while Tom Anderson chipped in with 25 late on to help swell the total.

Madeley got off to a flying start in reply, with openers Chris Hodson (61) and Stephen Pugh (51) putting on a stand of 94 for the first wicket before the latter fell to Mat McWhinnie.

Jonathan Prince maintained the momentum at four with a run a ball 48 as Madeley managed to reach their target with almost four overs to spare.

McWhinnie finished with creditable inures of 2-26 from six overs, while there was one wicket apiece for Sam Birch and Joe Birch.

Pairs wanted for contest

CRIFTINS bowling club are on the lookout for more pairs to take part in their open doubles competition at the club on Sunday, July 28 (10am start).

There is a £160 prize for the winners, £80 for the losing finalists, and cash prizes for the beaten semi-finalists.

Some 20 pairs have already signed up, but the club, based in Duddleston Heath, need a field of 32, so anyone interested should contact Andy Jones on 07912-627976.



Mike Davies - going back to his Llansantffraid roots

Ex-TNS boss goes home

MIKE DAVIES has returned to his roots to join the coaching staff of Llansantffraid Village Football Club academy.

The 33-year-old former TNS manager becomes the latest addition to an impressive roll call of coaches which have been assembled over the past 12 months, that include ex-Wales defender Ryan Valentine and Welsh futsal international Alex Ramsay.

Davies said: "Llansantffraid is a club close to my heart having played for them as a youngster before going on to Shrewsbury Town. It is a fine club and has a deserved reputation for producing young players."

"I have a lot of respect for what the club is trying to do and it is great to be part of the project with exciting times ahead."

Davies represented Welshpool and UWIC

Inter Cardiff in the Welsh Premier before his career was brought to a premature end through injury in 2001.

However Davies continued to develop as a coach and after assisting Darren Ryan at Newtown and Andy Cale at TNS.

The former Llanfair Caereinion High School student was then given the top job at TNS in 2010 and famously masterminded the Saints two legged win over Bohemians in the UEFA Champions League.

Davies departed TNS in 2011 and linked up with AFC Telford before taking a break from football.

Davies added: "I do not have the time for senior football but I wanted to keep my toe in the game and I am delighted to help out Llansantffraid Village."

Saints Euro bid

THE New Saints got another taste of European football this week when they came face to face with Polish giants Legia Warsaw in the Champions League second qualifying round first leg at Wrexham's Racecourse.

It marked the Saints' 15th European campaign which is a record for a Welsh Premier club - while they have a credible record of only two defeats in their last six European home games.

"These are the games you really want to be involved in," said director of football Craig Harrison.

"Legia have got great pedigree. They've reached European semi-finals in the past, they won the domestic double last season and they're full of internationals, so it's going to be a tough encounter."

"But we have a very good squad and hopefully we will have returned a lot from last season."

The return leg takes place next Wednesday in front of an anticipated 30,000 crowd.

Cup curtain call chance of revenge for Rovers

WATERLOO Rovers will contest the Spar Mid Wales League curtain raiser when they visit Llanidloes Town in the Summer Cup final at Victoria Avenue in the middle of next month.

The match on Wednesday, August 14, kicking off at 7.30pm, pits together the Spar league champions and league cup winners.

However, with Llanidloes having won both pieces of silverware last term to gain promotion to the Cymru Alliance, they will take on Waterloo, who they defeated in the league cup final.

The league campaign starts two days later when Welshpool Town, under new boss Russell Cadwallader, visit Llansantffraid Village in Division One on Friday, August 14 (kick-off 7.30pm).

The Saturday fixture list is depleted due to the preliminary round of the Welsh Cup, but Montgomery - who narrowly missed out on the league title last term - are in division one action with a trip to Builth Wells (2.30pm).

There is a full fixture list in Division One on the following Wednesday, with a number of stand-out games with Waterloo hosting newly promoted Llanfair United.

Elsewhere, Four Crosses welcome Welshpool, Montgomery host Llansantffraid Village while Berriew - whose assistant boss this season is former Welshpool chief Dave Jones - start their league season at Dyffryn Banw. All games kick off at 6.30pm.

Super drive for Watkins

WELSHPOOL driver James Watkins kept a cool head to pick up a fine third in class on the Nicky Grist Stages based in Builth Wells.

Driving the Nissan Micra prepared by Geoff Jones Motorsport, Watkins produced a fine drive from Builth Wells with Richard Suter alongside.

Watkins is now lying second in class and the junior section of the Welsh Rally Championship, and hopes he can continue his run of podium finishes on the Woodpecker Rally in August.

by John Bridgwater

CAPTAIN Mark Robinson is preparing for Oswestry's "biggest game of the season" as one of the league leaders' closest rivals, Harborne, visit Morda Road on Saturday (12noon).

After last week's 73-run win against Water Orton, the border side now hold a four-point advantage at the top of the Birmingham League Division Two from Old Elizabethans. They are 10 points ahead of this weekend's visitors.

Another victory - their eighth in the last nine games - could open up a significant gap on their promotion rivals.

Robinson said: "Saturday's a massive game for us, the biggest of the season so far."

"It would put us about 30 points clear of third place. We want to put pressure on the teams below us."

"If we can do that, it would put us in good shape for our remaining games but, by the same token, if we lose on Saturday, then we could go back down to third or fourth."

"The table is that tight and one thing we know is that any team in this league is capable of beating you if you are not on your game."

Threat

"We had a bad first half of a game last week when we did not score nearly enough runs. "But we put in a fantastic effort with the ball and in the field with some brilliant catches."

Oswestry consolidated pole position after earning another 24 points against Water Orton - and they will be hoping to have the backing of another sizeable crowd at Morda Road on Saturday when they expect to keep the same side that was on duty last week.

Third-placed Harborne, however, arrive in good spirits, having defeated Oswestry by four wickets earlier in the season.

They were 10-wicket winners over Fordhouses last week, with dangerman Andrew Lloyd hitting 79 not out to move past 500 runs for the season.

Oswestry will be aware of the threat and will need to post a sizeable total after toiling with the bat in sweltering conditions last Saturday, before managing to claw their way to 149 all out.

As they have done so often this season, the bowlers then came to the rescue with opening pair Jonathan Miles (4-40) and Paul Robinson (1-28) putting the skids under the hosts before Mark Robinson took 3-3 to finish off the innings.

Robinson said: "Make no bones about it, we battled poorly last week and I felt we were at least 100 runs short."

LLanymynech greenkeepers a cut above



LLANYMYNECH Golf Club will have no problem staying in top shape for its 80th anniversary year - after receiving brand new green-keeping machinery.

Caroline Bickford, chairperson of the greens committee, handed

over the keys of the newly acquired replacement machinery to head greenkeeper Allen Lewis watched by the rest of the greenkeeping staff (from left) Alan Evans, James Hampson and Matt Lewis, who thanked the club's management

committee for their continued investment in the course.

The club are also keen to support local business since the machines were obtained from Charlie's Groundcare of Newtown, Powys.



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